

Reagan offers talks to Russia

After more than three years of snarling Soviet-American hostility, President Reagan is suddenly talking about the possibility of holding a summit meeting with President Chernenko. At a White House press conference Mr Reagan said he was "willing to meet and talk any time" with the Soviet President even if the Soviet Union did not return to the stalled Geneva nuclear arms reduction talks.

However, in Washington it seemed unlikely a summit meeting could take place before the US presidential elections. In Moscow, where Comecon leaders issued a statement accusing Washington of putting at risk the "very existence of mankind", prospects for a summit seemed more remote than ever.

Search for dialogue, page 7

Detective jailed

Det Inspector Peter Lewis was jailed for 18 months at the Central Criminal Court for accepting a £1,000 bribe. He was convicted after the jury heard a tape recording from a microphone concealed in a Christmas tree. Det Constable Peter Bignold was acquitted of the charge.

Teachers' terms

Teachers' leaders say that a claim for the restoration of the eroded value of their salaries, going back 10 years, is an essential element of their arbitration terms.

page 2

Still Phillips

Peter Phillips (above) is Travestie Seaway, and leads by 28 to 22 in the Observer single-handed transatlantic race, but two Frenchmen are closing on him.

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Police inquiry

Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, has appointed a senior officer to investigate the shooting by gunmen of unarmed intruders at a sub-post office.

Back page

Belfast shooting

A policeman and a member of the Irish National Liberation Army were killed yesterday after a flat was surrounded in West Belfast. The police said security forces had not fired shots.

page 2

Iranians flee

Eight Iranians sought political asylum in Egypt after commandeering a plane and flying it to Luxor. They had previously stopped in Bahrain and, according to some reports, in Saudi Arabia.

page 7

Trudeau tribute

Canada's Liberals bade an evocative adieu to Mr Pierre Trudeau at a convention in Ottawa.

page 6

Losing streak

Mr Brian Johnson, an insurance broker from Surrey, lost £19,247 in six weeks when he dealt with W.H. Fultons, the commodity broker.

Family Money, page 26

Test centuries

Vivian Richards scored 117 and Larry Gomes 143 as West Indies took a first innings lead of 230 against England in the first Test match at Edgbaston.

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Leader page 11

Letters: On world debt, from Mr D. R. W. Potter, and Professor A. P. Thirlwall; "sun wars", from Dr G. Lee Williams; orthodoxy, from the Rev J. L. Houlden.

Leading articles: Portsmouth; Keegan and Chernenko; Video Bill; Obituary, page 12.

Professor J. F. Daniell, Dr J. R. Baker; Classified, page 32

Ban on commercial surrogate mothers to be recommended

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Legislation to ban commercial surrogate motherhood agencies, to control research on human embryos and to make children born by artificial insemination legitimate is to be recommended by the Warnock Committee on artificial reproduction.

The committee completed its 18-month-long study of the complex legal, social and ethical implications of the test-tube baby technique and of the other forms of artificial reproduction on Thursday, in a windowless room in the Department of Health Social Security.

Its recommendations, in a 13-chapter report running to 100 pages of typescript, are to be handed to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, on June 26.

The 16-member committee of doctors, scientists, lawyers and lay people, representing a wide spread of religious views, has produced a legal framework for controlling research and treatment by the new methods.

But on two key issues the committee has split, and three minority reports are likely to accompany the main recommendations.

The divisions within the committee will be reflected in a furious debate this summer, once ministers publish its findings. Legislation to implement its findings is unlikely before October next year.

On surrogate motherhood the committee is unanimous that

commercial agencies, which charge fees to arrange for one woman to bear a child for another, should be banned.

Such agencies already exist in the United States and last month it was announced that two British women are carrying babies for a fee of £6,500 each for the National Centre for Surrogate Parenting in Washington, which has a British agent operating in Surrey.

The committee has recommended that a permanent national licensing body should be created. Its tasks would include monitoring developments in a rapidly changing field and advising government on what new developments should be permitted — a sort of standing Warnock committee.

All hospitals and clinics which provide test-tube baby treatment would have to be licensed and open to inspection by the body, which would set standards and require that detailed records be kept of success and failure so that long-term research on the effects of the technique can be undertaken.

Clinics and hospitals providing artificial insemination by donor (AID), by which at least 2,000 children a year are already estimated to be born in Britain, would also have to be licensed and to register birth.

No one sperm donor should be allowed to father more than ten children, the committee has recommended, to reduce the

chances of half brothers and sisters meeting in later life and producing children who would be at higher risk of genetic defects.

The identity of donors should remain secret, but legislation should be introduced to make a child born by AID legitimate. At present they are illegitimate and legally should be adopted.

On embryo research, the committee has recommended that it should be limited to 14 days after fertilization — the very end of the period when embryo implant in the uterus. This is lower than the 17 days presently recommended by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, the point at which the neural tube, which becomes the brain and spinal cord, begins to form.

It is also lower than the limit many researchers in the field would support. They will argue that important advances in understanding how genetic abnormalities occur, in correcting defects in foetuses, and in developing radical new treatments for adults using foetal cells, may be possible if a higher limit was permitted.

The committee, however, feels that 14 days is the safest compromise, with an extension of that time possible of the standing body so advised if the technique can't be undertaken.

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Continued on back page, col 3

Price rises trigger 5% higher pensions

By Sarah Hogg and Peter Wilson-Smith

The annual uprating of social security benefits will be based on an increase of 5.1 per cent. This was the rise in retail prices in the 12 months to May, published yesterday, on which the Government's cost-of-living guarantee now depends.

It would raise the single person's pension from £34.95 to about £35.80 a week, and the married couple's pension from £54.50 to about £57.30.

However, this guarantee now applies to only a limited number of benefits. So Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, who is expected to outline the uprating to the House of Commons on Monday, may well announce smaller benefits for unemployed and supplementary benefit, possibly sweetened by a larger increase in child benefit.

The Government's inflation guarantee covers all long-term supplementary benefit is increased in line with the retail price index, excluding housing which is covered by a separate benefit. This rose only 4.7 per cent in the year to May, which would imply an increase for the married householder on long-term supplementary benefit from £54.55 a week to about £57.10 a week.

The Government may decide to raise unemployment benefit to £27.05 for a single man and £43.75 for a married man.

Hayek made Companion of Honour

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Professor Friedrich von Hayek, whose writings on the free market and monetarism have been a guiding light in the economic outlook of the Prime Minister, is made a Companion of Honour on the Queen's birthday honours list published today.

Professor Hayek, who won the Nobel Prize in economics in 1974 and was writing about monetary theory in the 1930s, has long been acknowledged as Mrs Thatcher's economic guru, perhaps rivaled in the influence he has exerted only by Professor Milton Friedman.

Professor Hayek, aged 83, now lives in Germany but is a naturalized British subject. He was professor of economic science and statistics at the University of London from 1931 to 1950.

He is one of three Companions of Honour in a list which for the first time since 1973 contains no life peers. In most recent Queen's birthday and new year lists there have been three or four life peers but on this occasion Mrs Thatcher decided that there were no names that she wished to recommend.

It is clear that there was no pressure on her to create more peers. It is known that she discussed the matter with Lord Whitelaw, the leader of the Lords, and it was felt that there was no pressing need for any more at present.

The other new companions of honour are Viscount Eccles, the former Conservative minister who is honoured particularly for his services to the arts; and Sir Philip Powell, the architect.

David Lean, the film director, is knighted, as is Mr George Christie, chairman of Glynneath, Timothy West, the actor and director, is made a CBE.

Full honours list, pages 4 and 5

Debt soft line

The US Treasury Secretary and the head of the Federal Reserve Board have softened their earlier insistence on Argentina complying with the deadline on interest payments to qualify for fresh loans.

Continued on back page, col 6

Police hunt parents of missing baby Louise

By Alan Hamilton

Police forces throughout Britain have been asked by Scotland Yard to help in the search for the parents of Louise Brown, the Down's Syndrome baby reported missing from south London 18 days ago. The hunt began when police failed to find the couple at their Streatham home yesterday morning.

Louise's father, Mr Paul Brown, a 30-year-old roofing contractor, is expected to face serious charges in connexion with the baby's disappearance. His common-law wife, Susan Pullen, and other relatives of the missing baby may face associated charges of aiding and abetting.

Police are also anxious to

interview the baby's aunt and uncle, Mr Ian Brown and his wife, Brenda, and her grandmother, Mrs Mary Brown, all of whom have already faced intensive questioning at Putney police station.

Louise was reported missing by her father on May 28. He told police she had been inside his car when it was driven away while he was inside Battersea Post office. The car was found abandoned two hours later.

Ports and airports were alerted last night to be on the lookout for four people, believed to be Louise's parents and uncle and aunt, who may be accompanied by an older woman and up to five children, aged between two and 12.

The weekly prize will be £20,000, with an additional daily prize of £2,000.

If there is more than one winner of any prize, the prize money will be shared equally among the winners. If there is

no winner, the money will be carried forward.

The game can be played by anyone who has a Times Portfolio card. The cards will be distributed with both *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* over a period of three days before the game starts and they will be available from other sources as well.

There is no charge for playing the game. Purchase of *The Times* is not a condition for taking part.

The Times Portfolio card will carry a group of eight numbers which will relate to a

many of them liked what they saw and have continued to

read the paper on a regular basis.

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"Times Portfolio will co-



Celebrating: Mr Mike Hancock, Portsmouth's victor, opens a bottle of bubbly.

Three die in oil tanker blasts

By Tim Jones

Three people were killed and 17 injured, some seriously, when a series of huge explosions followed by a fireball ripped through an empty oil tanker in Milford Haven docks, Dyfed, yesterday.

The dead were believed to be a crewmember and two dockworkers.

The first explosion happened at about 2.30 pm, hours after the 4,600-ton Pointsman of London had berthed at the docks for routine repairs. Crewmen and dock workers were in the pump room repairing a faulty valve when the first blast threw them to the floor.

Firemen, who arrived on the scene within 20 minutes, were fighting their way towards the pump room when they too were caught by a second explosion which ripped off their helmets and tore away their jackets.

An eye-witness said: "There was a dull thud, and then a huge explosion, followed by a fireball that went right through the tank."

A third explosion three minutes later injured two ambulances as they attempted to reach the firemen and the crew.

The eye-witness said: "The men were very severely burnt. Their clothes were on fire, and they were screaming."

At least 10 of the injured are firemen, and Sea King helicopters from RAF Bardsey transferred the most severely injured from a hospital at Milford Haven to the burns unit at Cheltenham, 130 miles away.

The docks were sealed off as teams of firemen from all over the county fought to control the blaze, and ambulances transferred the injured to waiting ambulances.

The Pointsman, 300ft long, is one of 26 ships operated by Rowbotham, the London agents, and regularly carries a gas-oil cargo from Milford Haven.

Mr Gerald Lever, the assistant managing director of the company, said an inquiry would be held into the tragedy. No names were released, so that the next of kin could be informed first.

The Pointsman, which had bad unloaded its cargo of gas oil at Avonmouth, had arrived in the dry docks for repairs expected to last no more than 12 hours. Dockworkers went on board after the ship had been checked and cleared of any dangerous gas, a police spokesman said.

The dead men could not be reached for more than an hour until the pump room had been filled with foam.

The Pointsman, part of a fleet of 26 ships operated by the London agents Rowbotham Tankships Ltd, regularly carries gas oil from Milford Haven to Southwick, near Brighton. On this particular occasion she had taken on a cargo at Pembroke and offloaded it at Avonmouth.

Born to be King

Prince William kicks off a three-part series on the future of the Royal children

Continued on back page, col 6

Teachers to demand end of pay 'erosion'

By Mike Durham of the *Times Educational Supplement*

Teachers' leaders said yesterday that a claim for the restoration of the portion of their salaries eroded over the last 10 years was an essential element of the arbitration terms that they hope to negotiate with local authorities in renewed pay talks next week.

The unions, which are calling out 26,500 teachers on strike next week, are seeking arbitration "with no strings attached". But the local authorities say that the one condition they are likely to make is that only this year's pay claim should be considered.

The teachers claim that in relative terms, their pay has dropped by 31 per cent since the last overall review of teachers' pay, the Houghton Report, in 1974.

Striking schools, page 6

NGA given leave to defend action

The National Graphical Association was ordered in the Court of Appeal yesterday to make a £45,000 interim payment to Mr Eddie Shah, the owner of the Messenger News-papier Group in Warrington, Cheshire, over picketing at his premises. The union was given unconditional leave to defend an action seeking exemplary damages being brought against it by the Messenger Group in Manchester on July 9.

The union was originally ordered to pay £73,653 plus statutory damages on March 1. Yesterday's ruling means that the Messenger Group must repay the £28,653 difference with interest.

Irish back giving vote to Britons

Voters in the Irish Republic are in favour of giving votes to resident British citizens in their general elections.

When the ballot boxes for the ninth constitutional amendment referendum were opened yesterday, early indications were that the electorate had backed the government proposal by a large margin.

Council fails

The High Court has ruled against the Conservative-controlled London borough of Bromley, which sought to outlaw councils' subscriptions to the Labour-led Association of London Authorities. The ruling means the ASA can survive financially. Bromley is to appeal.

Law report, page 8

Coal Board aims to woo miners back to work with money

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board is to mount a new "back to work" offensive next week to persuade more than 120,000 miners to end their 14-week strike.

The likelihood of an early ballot organized by the board receded last night as its managers put together a package of incentives to accelerate the hitherto-disappointing drift of men back to the pits.

The *Times* understands that it will involve financial and moral pressures to woo the miners away from their union leaders.

Lump sums of holiday pay may be one of the inducements offered. The board also wants to reassure miners in the long-life pits that their jobs are safe and that there could be more employment for young people if the industry solves its present crisis.

If these measures fail it is likely that the board will organize a ballot to accept the MacGregor Plan for Coal, which will lead to 20,000 voluntary redundancies this financial year.

Pits have been open for a return to work since the strike started on March 12, but there has been almost no sign of men wanting to do so in Scotland, Durham, Northumberland, Yorkshire, South Wales and Kent.

MSC urged to expand training plan

By Our Labour Reporter

The Youth Training Scheme should be extended to include all school-leavers aged 17 and some aged 18, according to a paper to go before the Manpower Services Commission (MSC).

The MSC's youth training board yesterday endorsed research conducted by commission officials which argued that the system should include higher age groups. At the moment the YTS is available to school-leavers aged 16 along with 17-year-olds, after a period of unemployment.

The study contends that the scheme should be open to school and college leavers aged 18 who are entering longer-term training programmes.

Policeman dies in Belfast gun battle

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A policeman and a member of the Irish National Liberation Army died yesterday in gunfire after security forces surrounded a flat in West Belfast.

Two police officers were also injured when shots were fired from a Russian-made AK47 automatic rifle as they attempted entry.

Police Constable Michael Todd, aged 22 from Llambeg, Co Antrim, died in hospital. Last night his colleagues were described as "shattered".

The INLA man who died was Paul "Bonanza" McCann, aged 20, from the Lower Falls area.

Mr McCann came from the Lower Falls area of Belfast and was described by INLA as a staff officer of their organization and one of their finest volunteers.



Police officers arresting pickets outside the entrance to Whitemoor mine, near Selby, North Yorkshire, yesterday.

Pig farmers join in attack on ministers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Farmers yesterday denounced the Government's alleged mishandling of a programme to eradicate African swine fever, and its refusal to provide financial help.

After the dairy farmers' discontent over the imposition of milk quotas, it has plunged relations between farming organizations and their traditional Conservative allies to their lowest level in memory.

That was partly due to the ministry's failure to obtain the best possible prices for pigs from infected herds ordered to be sent to slaughter, they said.

Sir Richard Butler, the union's president, had met Mr Jopling this week to ask for financial help but had been told that he was not prepared to agree.

At the very least the voters of Portsmouth South have given the Government a rude shock. But might they have done more than that? Will we look back on this by-election as a landmark in British politics?

That depends, I believe, upon two considerations. The first is whether the electorate might now be beginning to blame the Government for the level of unemployment.

It was at the Birmingham, Northfield by-election in October, 1982, that I first became aware that while unemployment was seen by many as a great national calamity it was not regarded as a political issue. Time and again I heard a forceful and articulate Labour candidate expose the evils of unemployment only to be greeted by the response: "But everybody's suffering from it these days."

How could the Government be held responsible for what had become the scourge of the western world? Would it not be like reshuffling the Cabinet in a drought to make the rain come?

This attitude to unemployment has been a dominating factor in British politics ever since. It has meant that Labour has been unable to capitalize on the country's greatest problem, and the Government's greatest failure, because this has been considered politically irrelevant. So long as this remains the public judgment the Conservatives must retain a precious advantage.

A straw in the wind

But when I was looking at the European election campaign in the Bristol area a fortnight ago I was struck by the readiness with which people agreed to vote for the Labour candidate in protest against high unemployment. Admittedly, they seemed to be traditional Labour voters, but a good many of them had declined to accept that line of reasoning in Birmingham, Northfield.

This raises the second consideration on which the long-term significance of Portsmouth South will depend: Will the Alliance be able to seize this new opportunity? British political history over the past few years has been punctuated by the regular appearance of new openings from which the Alliance has been unable to profit.

It has now won an important but very much a local success, achieved with a strong local candidate and a concentration of effort upon a single constituency. It is not so well placed to fight across the country as a whole. That is why all the evidence suggests that the Alliance has done much worse in the European elections.

Portsmouth should be seen therefore as providing a new chance rather than a evidence of new strength. It shows what might be achieved if the Alliance could develop an effective organization and a consistent appeal. To do that it needs to sort itself out so that it can develop into a coherent political entity. Only if it does so is Portsmouth likely to mark any significant change in the balance of power between the opposition parties in this country.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

has been a fundamental shift in the public attitude towards unemployment then there will be more than a few crumbs of comfort for the Conservatives to take from Portsmouth.

Can opportunity be seized?

Conservative dominance over the past few years has owed much to a divided opposition. So long as it is not clear whether Labour or the Liberal-Social Democratic Party Alliance presents the greater threat the Conservative can afford to smile. If the Alliance triumph at Portsmouth South is balanced by Labour doing much better in the European elections that will tend to perpetuate the uncertainty.

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PARLIAMENT June 15 1984

Labour seeks shooting inquiry

POLICING

A senior police officer unconnected with the robbery squad is to hold an inquiry into the shooting of two men in a North London post office on Thursday. Mr Leo Britton, Home Secretary, said in a statement to the Commons. His report will go to the Director of Public Prosecutions together with a separate report on the question of whether offences were committed by the men who were arrested.

Mr Britton said it would be improper for him to say anything which could prejudice any subsequent proceedings.

When armed police officers had entered the post office they discovered that it had been broken into and two men were inside. There had then been a struggle but it would be wrong for him to comment in detail now on what followed. In the struggle two men whom the police were attempting to arrest were shot. Both were seriously injured. Those shots were fired by both officers when they were required to be armed in the course of their duty.

The Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police (Sir Kenneth Newman) had confirmed that the firearms had been issued after the proper procedure had been completed. The Home Office had been consulted. The Home Office was asked a heavy responsibility to issue firearms when they were required to be armed in the course of their duty. That must mean that when firearms

were used by the police the manner must be regarded as a serious one and fully justified into.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, opposition spokesman on Home Affairs, asked Mr Britton whether the Metropolitan Police had properly observed the rules on the issues and use of firearms. These rules had said quite specifically that a weapon was to be used only in cases of absolute necessity, for example if the officer or person he was protecting was attacked by someone with a firearm or some other deadly weapon and could not otherwise reasonable protect himself or give protection. Press reports did not indicate that such a case had occurred.

A Scotland Yard spokesman had been quoted as saying: "The threat was there." But the belief in a threat was not the same as the absolute necessity laid down by the Metropolitan Police.

Last December, in the light of the Waldf shooting the Home Secretary said: "I am sure that the use of firearms has been compiled with, that is exactly the matter which is the subject of investigation. It would be highly improper for me or even anybody else to rush to a judgment on that.

On the question of the selection and training of officers in the use of firearms and the need for rules, expressed in the light of the Waldf case, Mr Britton was quoted as saying that the action he had announced in response to that incident of improved selection and training was going ahead in the way he had indicated.

Mr Norman Atkinson (Tottenham, Lab) asked Mr Britton to confirm that the criteria against which guns were issued to police was protection of life and not protection of property.

Was it normal for robbery squad officers to be issued with arms? Mr Britton said: "I am not sure that there seems to be a general drift, certainly a casual drift, into the normality of officers carrying arms.

It was Mr Britton's responsibility to tell MPs that he wished to reiterate the principles guiding Sir Kenneth Newman in this whole business of the Metropolitan Police using guns.

Mr Britton: I am happy to reiterate the Commissioner's principles and to assure Mr Atkinson that there is no question of Sir Kenneth or me supporting any move to allow any kind of general drift into the use of arms as a regular matter.

The guidelines and my further announcement are designed to ensure that weapons are issued only under the tightest control and used in the rarest circumstances.

Mr Merlyn Rees (Leeds South and Mersey, Lab) a former Home Secretary, said: I am sure that these two reports should be made by the Metropolitan Police and passed to the DPP and that they will need time. It would be foolish of us on the basis of newspaper reports to believe that we know the full facts. Will these two reports be brought to the attention of the House?

Should there not be a fuller inquiry into this whole drift?

Mr Britton said for the moment he was sure that the serious investigation taking place was the right course. Reports to the DPP were not published but if proceedings followed from these reports the matter became entirely in the public domain.

● In the House of Lords the Health and Social Security Bill was further considered in committee and adjourned.

The office designed to be enjoyed

By Charles Knecht
Architecture Correspondent

One piece of modern architecture to receive royal approval is the National Farmer's Union Mutual and Avon Insurance Group Head office, Stratford-on-Avon, which was opened by Princess Anne on Thursday.

Mr Britton I am satisfied that the rules on the issue of firearms were complied with. As to whether the rules on the use of firearms have been complied with, that is exactly the matter which is the subject of investigation.

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National Farmers' Union and Avon Insurance building a neoclassical and a neo-renaissance style.

examined 22 sites before this one was chosen.

It was decided to position the four-storey building well away from existing ones

North Sea platforms too popular with marine life

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The phenomenon of marine communities of more than 80 different forms of plant and animal life colonizing the submerged legs of the North Sea oil platforms could become rare when a new anti-fouling material invented by Shell is in extensive use.

These marine communities are not peculiar to the oil platforms, but similar to those which would develop in shipwrecks or any other structure that could be described as an artificial reef.

"What they are looking for is a place to settle. What you are seeing is intense competition for space. A oil platform is space," says Dr Robert Ralph, from the Department of Zoology at Aberdeen University.

The same technique is used in the west of Scotland where mussels are farmed. A form of raft is placed in the water and is soon colonized by plants and animals from the sea. Similar methods have been used in San Francisco Bay, using old trams.

The mussels, barnacles, tube worms and others which attach themselves to the platforms develop from planktonic larvae which drift with the ocean currents until they find a suitable home, such as an oil platform. It takes about a year to colonize the legs of a platform completely.

Shell's new anti-fouling material, Aquastat, is able to create an oily smooth surface on the leg of the platform, so preventing the larvae and spores from easily anchoring themselves.

Memorial to shot WPC is agreed

By John Witherow

Agreement on a memorial to Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher near the spot where she was shot dead outside the Libyan People's Bureau has finally been reached after weeks of disagreement.

Westminster City Council will allow the Police Memorial Trust to put up a 4ft high stone monument on the pavement.

Mr Michael Winner, the film director who is also chairman of the trust, said the inscription would be "Here fell Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher, April 17, 1984".

The trust originally wanted to mount the memorial on railings that surrounded the gardens but this was rejected by the St James's Square trustees as too prominent.

Mr Winner then applied for and received the council's permission to place it on the pavement.

The AMA said the proposed legislation would allow ministers to decrease or increase spending limits or set conditions on an authority's expenditure if it appealed, making it unlikely that they would risk doing so.

Rate-capping change may aid charities

The Government is to amend its rate-capping Bill to provide some protection for charitable organizations receiving grants from local authorities.

Under an amendment to be tabled on Monday, ministers will take into account any local authority grants to charitable voluntary organizations, which total about £300m a year, if local authorities appeal against government spending limits.

The concession was welcomed yesterday by the National Council for Voluntary Organizations, but was described as "worthless" by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

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Move into the Fast Lane. Glossy, classy—and packed with personality cars, some beautiful, some extraordinary, all fast.

Family of US pilot killed on holiday get record £666,000 damages

The widow and two children of an American airline pilot killed in a road crash soon after arriving in Scotland on holiday were yesterday awarded record personal injury damages in Scotland of £666,468 by a civil jury at the Court of Session in Edinburgh.

At the end of a four day hearing, the jury awarded the widow, Mrs Karen Foot, aged 40, of Minnesota, a total of £24,648 for the loss of her husband, David, aged 39, and for her own injuries suffered in the crash. They had sued for a record personal injuries claim of £12m.

Her daughter Kirsteen, aged 16, was awarded a total of £11,160 and her daughter Sally, aged 14, was awarded £10,660 damages for the injuries which they suffered, and for the loss of their father.

The family had sued Petrofina UK, Limited of Bothwell Street, Glasgow and SMT (Sales and Service) Limited of West Campbell Street, Glasgow, blaming their respective employers for causing the accident.

Mr Foot, a £40,000-a-year pilot with North West Orient Airlines, was qualified to pilot Boeing and DC-10 aircraft and was in line for promotion.

The Foots had claimed they were picked up from Prestwick Airport after arriving in Scotland on April 24, 1980 by a Vauxhall Carlton car driven by Miss Wendy Kidston, an employee of SMT.

Soon afterwards, on the A77 Prestwick to Glasgow road a fuel tanker belonging to Petrofina and driven by their employee, Mr Neil Shaw drove across a break in the central reservation of a dual carriage-way to cross to an access road. The tanker was 41 ft in length and more than 10 ft high.

The Vauxhall hit the back of the tanker and Mr Foot, the passenger in front seat was killed and the rest of his family in the back seat were injured. The jury heard evidence from witnesses that the Vauxhall was being driven by Miss Kidston at speeds of up to 100 miles an hour shortly before the crash.

After the verdict Mrs Karen Foot, a former home economics teacher said: "I hope this case will in some way help the people of this country realize that the speeds they are driving at are deadly". She said that if the speed limit were reduced and lives were saved then her husband's death would not have been in vain.

Mrs Foot added: "I think the jury's verdict was a fair decision, but there is no amount of money that can bring back my husband". The previous highest personal injury damages awarded by a court in Scotland was about £150,000.

Tourists face car hire risks

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Too many British holiday-makers abroad are running foul of hidden pitfalls with cars hired overseas, because the travel trade is reluctant to spell out the dangers, the Automobile Association said yesterday.

The Association's magazine Drive, says: "Holiday vehicle rental can be a minefield, with no shortage of operators ready and willing to rip off the unsuspecting. Badly maintained cars, indifferent breakdown assistance, hidden extras, and, worst of all, inadequate insurance, are the pitfalls

awaiting the unwary."

It says the main problem is third party cover in respect of death and personal injury. In Britain, the law demands unlimited liability, but this is not always the case in other countries.

The magazine warns British holidaymakers heading for the United States to buy extra insurance before setting out. It cannot be bought by foreigners in the US itself.

Association staff visited five travel agents in an unnamed medium sized town, posing as customers wanting to book a

fly-drive or pre-booked car hire holiday to the US. Only one agent mentioned the pitfalls.

- A new AA survey of service charges at 400 British garages reveals price variations of up to 100 per cent for a standard 12,000-mile service. London and southern garages were the most costly. The cheapest was in Tyne-Tees and the Borders.

• The average motorist is now spending almost a penny a mile more to run his car than he did a year ago.

5,000 years of history in a wall

'Penal tax' blamed for sherry's decline

By Jeremy Warner

The Royston Range Trail, Britain's first archaeological walk, is to open next Saturday.

The four-mile trail, between Youlgreave and Ashbourne in the southern part of the Peak District National Park, is the brainchild of a lecturer at Sheffield University, Dr Richard Hodges.

Mr Ken Smith, an archaeologist with the national park, said yesterday: "That the trail should show the development of the landscape over the last 5,000 years".

There has been a further sharp decline since the Budget in consumption of sherry - once Britain's favourite grape drink, but long since overtaken by wine - and other fortified wines such as Vermouth, port and Madeira, the Wine and Spirit Association said yesterday.

Mr Arnold Tasker, the association's chairman, blamed "penal tax" for the fall and rejected as "absolute nonsense" that the drinks were simply going out of fashion and had failed to appeal to younger drinkers.

Since 1979, sales of fortified wines have slumped by a fifth and it is estimated that sherry has lost about two million drinkers. This is far higher than the fall in consumption of whisky or beer. During the same period, sales of light wines have made steady progress and since the Budget, which reduced excise duty on wine by 18p a bottle, sales have climbed further.

Nuclear dumps named

By a Staff Reporter

Three in the Bay of Biscay; three more than 100 miles off Madeira and two west of the Outer Hebrides.

The sites were identified by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which is responsible for dumping nuclear waste. Low-level waste comes from hospitals, civil and military nuclear establishments.

Licence refusal 'no slur' on Conteh



John Conteh: Questions on personal life

The claim by Mr John Conteh, the former world light-heavyweight boxing champion, that he did not get a fair hearing when the British Boxing Board of Control refused to renew his licence was challenged in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Alan Moses, for the board, said Mr Conteh, aged 33, had ample opportunity to argue his case when the board interviewed him last June.

Mr Moses was opening the board's defence to Mr Conteh's attempt to force a rehearing of his licence application.

Mr Conteh, of Bushey, Hertfordshire, claims that the board's refusal to sanction his comeback was an unlawful restraint of trade and against natural justice, and that its refusal to give reasons for its decision deprived him of the opportunity to meet the case against him.

Mr Moses told Mr Justice Mervyn Davies that the refusal was no slur on Mr Conteh, but the board felt that, if compelled to state its reasons in every case, its ability to reach honest decisions would be impaired.

Sale room

VC awarded in Indian Mutiny fetches £7,200

By Huon Mallalieu

There is something rather sad about a sale of medals since they can never mean to a future owner quite what they did to the original recipient. On the other hand, a collection formed with sympathy and enthusiasm and in many cases acquired directly from the recipients, is greater than the sum of its parts.

Yesterday, Spink dispersed a remarkable collection of British campaign, regimental, life-saving and other medals formed at the turn of the century by Captain John Stansfeld and augmented by subsequent generations of the family.

The last inheritor, Martin Stansfeld of Debrett's Peerage, was scilling in order to concentrate on his preferred collecting field of antiquities. He thus provided modern medal collectors with an unrivalled opportunity of acquiring mementoes of the history of the British Empire.

The most expensive item was an early Victoria Cross, presented in 1860 to Colour-Ser-

Train crash hero jailed for killing

A former skinhead who was honoured for rescuing the driver and passengers from a crashed London Underground train in 1980 was jailed for five years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after a jury heard that his introduction to drugs and drink abuse led him to kill.

Joseph Plebanowicz, aged 22, was found guilty of the manslaughter of a North Sea oil worker, Mr Eric Wilson, aged 24. Plebanowicz had denied murder.

He moved into a semi-detached block of flats in Royal College Street, Kentish Town, north London, known as "Madhouse Mansions" and occupied by squatters, alcoholics and drug addicts.

Council clears Nato base

The Western Isles council has granted detailed planning clearance for the second phase of the Ministry of Defence's £40m extension to the Nato base at Stornoway.

It overturned a recommendation by its development services committee to refuse clearance.

Murder demand

Colin Evans, aged 44, a lorry driver of Russell Street, Reading, Berkshire, was yesterday remanded in custody until July 13, accused of murdering Marie Payne, aged four, and three offences of child stealing. Mr Evans said nothing during the half-minute appearance at Barkingside magistrates court, east London.

Airport strike

Hundreds of holidaymakers yesterday had their flights cancelled because of a 24-hour strike over work schedules by 100 workers at Cardiff Airport. More than 50 flights were cancelled and the airport was left without first service cover. Flights to Cardiff were diverted to Bristol.

Deaths trial

A man, aged 43, charged with three murders, two rapes and aggravated burglary, was committed at Sheffield Crown Court yesterday to stand trial at a crown court to be decided. He was remanded in custody.

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The search for East/West dialogue

Comecon attack on US makes prospect of summit remote

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Prospects for a Soviet-American summit seem more remote than ever after a tough attack on the United States by the Comecon countries and insistence by Soviet officials that a summit would have to be carefully prepared.

A political declaration by this week's Comecon summit, released in Moscow yesterday, accused Washington of jeopardizing the "very existence of mankind", risking nuclear war and persistently using economic sanctions against the Soviet block "even in the food trade". The document "Maintenance of peace and international economic cooperation", called for the consolidation of the détente of the 1970s and for further "honest, equal and constructive dialogue".

But the thrust of the statement was profoundly anti-American and Mr Leonid Zamyatin, the Kremlin's chief spokesman, said that a summit between Mr Chernenko and President Reagan was only a long-term possibility. Western diplomats said it was encouraging that Mr Zamyatin had spoken of Moscow's "desire for agreement with the United States" but noted that Soviet pre-conditions for a summit had not changed.

On Thursday night, Mr Reagan said that he was ready to meet Mr Chernenko at any time and without conditions. But Mr Zamyatin said there were many questions to be considered before high-level dialogue could become possible.

Diplomats said that the main obstacle still appeared to be the continuing deployment of new



Mr Chernenko: The preconditions remain

Nato missiles in Europe, which the Comecon political declaration said had ushered in "a new and very dangerous phase of the nuclear arms race".

The three-day summit, which ended on Thursday, also adopted a long-term economic cooperation programme entitled "On the main directions for further developing and deepening economic, scientific and technical cooperation within Comecon".

The statement, also released yesterday, stressed the need for industrial modernization and planning in the Soviet block, intensified technological and electronic research over a period of 20 years and measures to bring consumer good and machinery in Russia and Eastern Europe up to "world technical standards", but there was strong evidence of disagreement, particularly over Russia's demand that its East European allies should supply Moscow with what the economic statement called "foodstuffs, con-

sidered goods and machinery of high quality" instead of selling such goods to the West for hard currency and exporting secondary products to the Soviet Union.

Sources said that the high price of Soviet energy supplies to Eastern Europe had also caused dissension. Mr Boris Gostin, a senior Soviet economic official, acknowledged that the prices Russia charged Eastern Europe for oil were above world market levels and said that the summit had agreed to bring the cost of Soviet energy imports more closely into line with world prices. But he confirmed that the Soviet Union was reducing oil more profitably on the world market.

Observers note that the summit documents gave no indication that the talks had even attempted the overhaul of Comecon's mechanisms and structures as demanded by more forward looking Soviet block leaders. The current integration programme was adopted at the last summit in 1989 and confirmed two years later. But it has run into serious difficulties including the insistence of Hungary, Poland and East Germany on closer trade links with the West rather than with their Comecon partners.

The economic statement said that the transferable rouble, Comecon's trading currency, would be strengthened but did not elaborate. It also said that the role of the Comecon headquarters in Moscow would be enhanced. But this appeared to fall far short of the supranational institution long demanded by Moscow but resisted by the East Europeans.

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Reagan lobs ball into court of the Soviet leader

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Like a tennis champion trying to gain the upper hand in the fifth set, President Reagan has slammed the ball deep into the Soviet court by easing his conditions for a summit meeting with President Chernenko.

He has also neatly volleyed his democratic opponents by deciding that he is "ready, willing and able" to meet Mr Chernenko even if Moscow did not return to the stalled nuclear arms reduction talks in Geneva.

All of the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination have bitterly criticized President Reagan's arms control record, had blamed him for failing to hold a summit with Moscow during the three and a half years he has been in office.

President Reagan's offer to "meet and talk any time" with President Chernenko was made in response to questions during a televised press conference at the White House on Thursday night.

The President took a far more positive attitude towards a meeting with Soviet leaders. Not only did he refrain from repeating the two conditions he had previously laid down - that there should be a specific agenda and a reasonable chance of achieving tangible results - but he went out of his way to say there did not have to be a "preconstructed meeting" with a list of points agreed in advance.

Furthermore, when asked



Mr Reagan speaking in the White House

Troops man rooftops as Uruguay bans rally

Montevideo (Reuter) - Troops manned rooftops and hospitals cleared emergency wards yesterday as Uruguay's military Government appeared set to confront a massive rally called to mark the return from exile today of the banned presidential candidate Señor Aldunate.

Authorities reinforced a ban on demonstrations, warning the public to keep away from the rally called by the opposition Blanco party to welcome home its 65-year-old leader.

"Those who organize or take part in (demonstrations) will run the ensuing risks besides being liable to punishment", a Government radio broadcast said.

Military sources said troops were preparing to move towards the capital. Residents reported

Nicaraguans send rebels fleeing to Costa Rica

From Martha Honey, San José

About 5,000 Nicaraguans soldiers are sweeping along the San Juan river, sending wounded and deserting rebels fleeing into Costa Rica in the largest operation launched against anti-Sandinista guerrilla bases in southern Nicaragua.

According to Costa Rican and Nicaraguan officials, guerrillas from the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) have put up little resistance since the offensive began last weekend.

ARDE's estimated 1,600 combatants located along the river, which divides Nicaragua and Costa Rica, are said to be desperately short of ammunition, food and clothing and virtually leaderless. ARDE commander Señor Eden Pastora and another top official were

seriously wounded when a bomb exploded at a press conference last last month.

Another commander, known as "Tadeo", is reported wounded in the current fighting.

Last month the CIA suspended its covert deliveries of money and supplies to ARDE, after Commander Pastora's refusal to form an alliance with the Honduran-based anti-Sandinista movement, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN).

Señor Edmundo Solano, the Costa Rican Minister of Public Security, described ARDE's forces as "demoralized" and "disintegrating" and said Costa Rica is getting ready for a massive influx of fleeing combatants.

Most of the refugees from Laos who volunteered to be resettled in China are reported to have fled into Burma and Thailand.

Some 300 have already reached Thailand and, according to Western aid workers on the Thai-Burman border, another 2,000 have now arrived there.

In 1980 more than 2,700

Laotians in Thai refugee camps volunteered to be resettled in Yunnan province in southern China.

Four months ago 300 of those

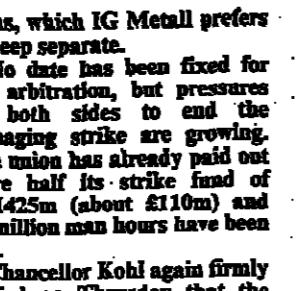
Laotians arrived on a small island in the Mekong river, which marks the Thai-Laotian border. They had sailed down the river after trekking through jungle and mountains for two months after leaving Yunnan province, apparently without hindrance. Laotian authorities on the island said the refugees could not stay there.

Last week United Nations officials evacuated them from the island as it was about to be engulfed by the rain-swollen river. They are now in a transit camp outside Bangkok waiting to go back to China.

Many of them, however, are refusing to go back, complaining that life is too harsh. They say there are no jobs for them and they cannot speak the local dialect.

Some with relatives in the United States, France and other Western countries obviously hope they will be able to go there.

However, that Thai Government is insisting they return to China. UN officials admit they are in a dilemma, since to force refugees into a country against their will contravenes the basic rule of the United Nations' refugee operations.



Herr Georg Leber: Man in the middle.

also cited those employers who thought they could smash the unions.

The strikes have already

made about 400,000 people idle, and more will be affected on Monday when employers have threatened to lock out another 30,000 workers in the Frankfurt area. Car companies, now at a standstill, have put their losses at billions of marks. The General motors' subsidiary, Opel, announced on Thursday that it has lost more than DM1.000m and, if the strike continued, it would threaten investment plans and cut Opel car production in Europe by 10 per cent a year.

In a separate dispute about pay, Lufthansa's internal flights were held up yesterday when employees staged warning strikes lasting two hours.

German unions and bosses bow to pressure

From Michael Binyon

The giant metalworkers' union, IG Metall, and the engineering employers announced yesterday that they are willing to call in outside arbitrators in an attempt to end the strike, now in its fifth week. Both sides agreed to invite Herr Georg Leber, a former Social Democratic Minister of Defence, to chair an eight-man panel.

The employers, however, said that all decisions in the conciliation process would have to be unanimous. They also want the arbitrators to deal jointly with the negotiations in the Frankfurt and Stuttgart

areas, which IG Metall prefers to keep separate.

No date has been fixed for the arbitration, but pressures on both sides to end the damaging strike are growing.

The union has already paid out more than half its strike fund of DM425m (about £110m) and 47 million man hours have been lost.

Chancellor Kohl again firmly denied on Thursday that the Government was ready to intervene, saying it was more sensible if those involved sat down together. Herr Norbert Blüm, the Minister of Labour, yesterday welcomed arbitration and criticized what he saw as the language of the class struggle on the union side. He

also cited those employers who thought they could smash the unions.

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THE ARTS

Television

Tall one for the road

Central's *Pull the Other One*, which began last night, is said to be a "gentle comedy series". On the strength of the first episode this is not a claim that would be an offence under the Trade Descriptions Act.

It rests mainly on the shoulders of Michael Elphick, as Sidney Mundy, which are broad but not necessarily therefore capable of bearing any burden. One would hope that Michael McStay's subsequent script will lighten the load.

The format is that of the flashback. Mr Elphick tells his latest tall tale in the pub and it is then acted out. The plot of the first, concerning the Mundy family holiday, suggests that the tales will be very tall indeed.

Parents, young son and daughter, and Sidney's mother-in-law, with whom he enjoys the traditional contempt-based

Dennis Hackoff

Radio
Seeds of doubt

What are we doing what is the effect - and what sort of an effect if we prevent conception or encourage it, about a foetus, induce a birth? At the other end of life, what if we withhold treatment or prolong it past the point at which the poor ailing body would be glad to give up? Aspects of the first of these areas of uncertainty preoccupied By Whom Begot? (Radio 3, June 3, June; producer, Anthony Moncrieff).

Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York; Professor John Ashworth, biologist and vice-chancellor of Salford University; and eminent international lawyer Paul Sieghart discussed some of the moral dilemmas presented to us by our now formidable ability to tinker with procreation and to artificially inseminate to generate an embryo outside the body and implant or even freeze it, to bring about the most spectacular fertility.

To some extent where you find a moral dilemma, there will also find a little well of human ignorance. When does an embryo become a human being? Your convinced Catholic will insist, as a matter of belief, that it is at the moment of conception; others, according to persuasion, retreat from that relatively precise point to one on a progression that ends in, though not usually beyond, the mists of "visibility of foetus", wherever that may be. But no one really knows how to answer the question. Someone from this programme suggested that increased scientific understanding of the embryo may help us to do so. But will it? I doubt if this is a problem with a scientific answer.

On the other hand, science can have a lot to say about surrogate motherhood, where another woman undergoes artificial insemination or womb-leasing, where she accepts an implanted embryo no part of which is hers. For instance, in the light of recent studies, will we find it advisable to bring children into the world by a means which must almost certainly deprive them of breast-feeding? Unless of course the wet-nurse makes an altogether unexpected come-back.

David Zane Mairowitz, author of the latest Monday

David Wade

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
'Not only the best
theatrical company
I have ever seen...'

Barbican Theatre The Pit

BOOKING NOW OPEN FOR 3 NEW PRODUCTIONS

THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE Previews from 18 July
John Digby's famous 40's farce, 'Boffing' for St Swithin's and Hilary Hollie.
Marie Aitken, Jane Booker, John Coker, Paul Greenwood,
Peggy Mount, Richard O'Callaghan,
Director Clifford Williams

RED STAR From 19 July

New comedy by Charles Wood with Richard Griffiths as Nikolai
Director John Caird

THE DEFTS From 17 August

by John Whiting with Peter McNaughton as Grandler and
Estelle Kohler as Sister Jeanne Director John Barton

AND 3 TRANSFERS FROM STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

TWELVE NIGHT Previews from 18 August
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Sheridan Morley meets Rex Harrison, in London for an unusual revival

Full circle for a king of comedy

Rex Harrison's arrival at the Theatre Royal Haymarket next Wednesday in the first major revival for 30 years of *Lonsdale's Aren't We All?* ought to be a cause for considerable celebration. In the first place, here we have the master light comedian of his generation actually playing a light comedy in London for the first time in three decades. Thanks to Harrison's casting we also get our first look on the London stage at Claudette Colbert since 1928, and the chance to reconsider the strangely lost playwriting career of Frederick Lonsdale.

Aren't We All? (bloody fools is the rest of that question, by the way) was the play that made Lonsdale's name legitimate in 1923, although he'd already written the books for such epic musicals as *Maid of the Mountains*, *The Balkan Princess* and *The King of Cadonia* which last, said one critic, he'd always enjoyed ever since it was to be called *The Prisoner of Zenda*.

But *Aren't We All?* fits no convenient theory of 1920s social comedy, and critics who've tried to find one might like to note that there's a very simple reason. On the first night of its last Haymarket revival in 1953, Guy Bolton happened to remark that he'd always much enjoyed the play. Ever since 1923? No, said Bolton, ever since 1908. That was when Lonsdale had first written and indeed staged it, as *The Best People*.

On its last outing in the 1950s press opinion was sharply divided, with Kenneth Tynan for the *Evening Standard* leading a predictable onslaught:

For Rex Harrison a wheel has come full circle. When he set out from Huyton in Lancashire 60 years ago this summer to join the Liverpool Rep as Reginald Carey Harrison, his stage heroes were not the Shakespearians but the great Lonsdale light comedians:

Ronnie Squire, Charles Hawtrey, Gerald de Maurier, the men who made it all seem so easy; they made you believe they had just popped into the theatre for a spot of acting on the way to the club. Now that I come to do one of Ronnie's great roles, I realize how right I was to admire him. Lonsdale is not easy to play; I'd rather have Bernard Shaw any day. Shaw worked for his actors: Lonsdale made them work for him. He gives you practically nothing; he wrote in a weird style all his own.

"I've never done a play of his before, but I did know him slightly when I first went out to Hollywood after the war. He escaped from prison, comes to England and lives here for three years undetected, teaching woodwork to a class of young offenders, doing it well and in general behaving like an exemplary, if serious and touchy, citizen. Then one of her boys gets into trouble with the police, she goes along to speak in his defence and is - as I infer - recognized, arrested, set for deportation.

It has already cost her dear to speak at all, for she has had to overcome the most profound fear of police in general. The play's strength and real interest lay in its account of how she had acquired that fear, and the effect it has on her. Author, director and actress (Diana Quick) managed to convey something very unpleasant indeed about the nature of a certain kind of solitary confinement akin to sensory deprivation: alone in an all-white cell where the only sound is the faint buzz of the fluorescent tube.

The experience had marked its victim for life. The play said little, though perhaps implied enough, about the mark left by urban terrorism. Certainly it reminded us in a particularly cogent fashion that the answer to the question, "Would you be as bad as your enemy?", is generally an enthusiastic "You bet".

David Zane Mairowitz, author of the latest Monday

David Wade

hated it there, said there was no conversation and left. He was probably with the local gentry and a wonderful house-guest, which was just as well as he never had any money. When H. G. Wells was dying, he said he wished Freddy would drop round to make the process more enjoyable."

Because he's never been a classical actor in the narrowest sense of that word, because he's never done his time at Stratford or the National Theatre, Harrison has curiously often been denied the honours that have gone to his contemporaries from Gielgud to Guinness.

The fact that from an early film of *Major Barbara* through the years of *My Fair Lady* to the more recent and in this country shamefully underrated *Heartbreak House* he has established himself as the greatest Shavian of his age (an achievement Shaw himself characteristically recognized before many others), the fact that his other work has centred around two of the most difficult verse dramatists of recent times (Eliot and Fry) and that he went straight from Drury Lane and *My Fair Lady* to a long and difficult season at the Royal Court with Devine, all tend to give the lie to the notion that we are dealing here with little more than an elegant reminder of the days when actors were required to shoot cuffs rather than guns.

Like Coward (of whom he was also in his time an expert performer, as any look at the film of *Blithe Spirit* might indicate), Harrison's timing has always been his strongest suit, apart of course from the suit itself: nobody onstage or off has done more to keep the art of great tailoring alive and well-cut. A few years ago, to mark his half-century on the stage (he is 76 this year) he published an autobiography called *Simply Rex*.

It was, like the man himself, crisp and elegant and a little chilly, but it traced one of the most remarkable careers of all contemporary actors, a career built on the foundations of charm and style laid down by Hawtrey and du Maurier, but then growing into the bearded apocalyptic majesty of Shotover. "If you weren't the best light comedian in the country", Coward once told Harrison, "all you'd be fit for would be the selling of cars in Great Portland Street".

In fact, of course, he'd proved fit for a good deal more than that: although the

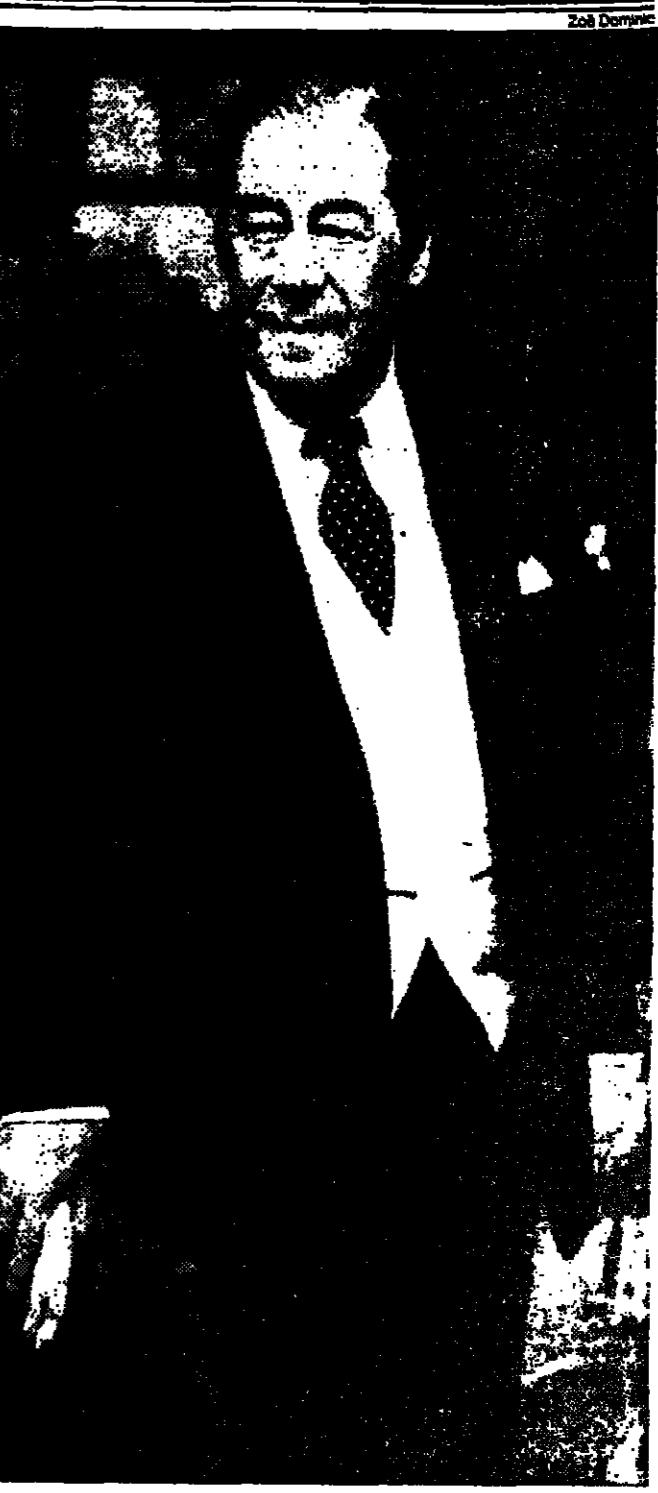
public image is now faintly reminiscent of exiled royalty, with apartments in Monaco and New York and a deep devotion to painting which may, he now threatens, take him away from the theatre altogether. Harrison remains one of the great personal and professional survivors of our times.

Thus far he's survived five marriages, a Hollywood scandal of the 1940s which would have been the end of many less sturdy careers, and the death a decade later of his beloved Kay Kendall. Like many of the Hollywood Raj, that colony of British actors, who went out to California much as their fathers and grandfathers had gone out to India and Africa, Harrison traded in the stiff upper lip and the stiff upper back. But he was a better and funnier actor than many of his contemporaries, and his career has been a conjuring trick of dazzling enterprise.

"I was a seedy child, good at nothing except a bit of cricket. Like Lonsdale I had no real education, largely because I wasn't capable of taking one in. But I've always looked for trials of strength: when I started there was no National, no RSC and the family couldn't afford a drama school. So I learnt in local rep how to stop people coughing on damp Wednesday afternoons. That doesn't mean I don't have any energy: because I don't ram and rave around the stage people think it's just me drifting around and not really working at it.

"The problem now is not that the plays have changed, but that the audiences have. When *Aren't We All?* first opened, people who'd liked it used to drop in again on the way home from the club just to see the last act, which for once Freddy had got right. I don't see that happening much now, and I'm no longer a part of that world. Shaw and Pirandello take you about as far away from cigarette-holders as you're likely to get, and I find it very hard now to pretend that I'm not really acting, which is the secret of Lonsdale.

"It's wonderful to be with Claudette: when I first saw her on the stage in 1928 here in a play called *The Barber* I thought she was ravishing, and I still do. I toured *The Kingfisher* around America with her a couple of years ago and that seemed to work, so I thought in her eightieth year it was about time the English got another look at her. There aren't many people like that about today, you know, willing to do eight shows a week at the Newmarket for not a lot of money. I think maybe I'll stop soon."



Rex Harrison as Lord Gresham

Theatre

Donald Cooper



Nicky Henson as Callimaco: obsessive manoeuvres

Dance

Plausible portraits

The Soldier's Tale
Newcastle Playhouse

This week's series of joint performances by the English Dance Theatre and the Northern Sinfonia celebrates both the completion of the orchestra's silver jubilee, and the dance company's imminent transfer from a shared home at Darlington Arts Centre to a new dance centre specially provided by Newcastle City Council.

Bringing the two organizations together (an enlightened act of sponsorship by Tyne Tees Television and Northern Arts) shows the English Dance Theatre's regular works to best advantage with fine accompaniment, besides enabling the presentation of *The Soldier's Tale*, an attractive although elusive early example of modern music theatre. Stravinsky's music, always the prime element, is given new and perspicuous under Alan Fearon's directions.

Yuri Vard's production rightly goes for the quasi-improvised effect that best suits the accompanying mixture of acting, dancing and recitation. Liam Halligan's soft Irish inflections give the soldier an appealingly robust innocence. Nicholas Burre is a spry, inquisitive devil - more an imp of Satan than Old Nick himself, but a dab hand with a butterfly net for catching fiddles and a white bicycle for his magic carriage.

The princess's dance perhaps shows her too quickly cheerful, but

John Percival

A Little Hotel on the Side, a translation by John Mortimer of *L'Hôtel du libre échange* by Georges Feydeau and Maurice Desvallières, opens at the Olivier Theatre on August 9 (with previews from August 3).

John Percival

...but I suspect the best company that the world has ever seen

Concerts

RPO/Temirkanov
Festival Hall

It is curious that both Tchaikovsky's *Manfred Symphony* and the *Pathétique*, his finest achievements in the genre, are both really symphonic poems, the former concerning itself with things external to the composer, the latter very much a piece about himself.

Perhaps because of its egocentricity, the *Pathétique* is liable to be ruined by those conductors who are tempted to suffocate it with a surfeit of idealized sentiment. Yuri Temirkanov seemed to be on less secure territory here, especially with his curiously lumpish conception of the slow introduction. But in spite of the orchestra's unwieldy size the faster music was lightly sprung.

As a foil to this the concert began with Mozart, and first of all with the overture *Die Zauberflöte*, performed with a full compliment of strings. Temirkanov seemed to be on less secure territory here, especially with his curiously lumpish conception of the slow introduction. But in spite of the orchestra's unwieldy size the faster music was lightly sprung.

So too was Jean-Pierre Rampal's elegant playing of the G major Flute Concerto. Happily his charm is purely musical, and his quality of sound second to none, which suited Mozart perfectly, of course.

Stephen Pettitt

"Something rather interesting and unexpected is happening at the Albery Theatre: The Clandestine Marriage... arrives in London like a breath of fresh air" SUNDAY TIMES

"The principal casting is weak. Mr Henson certainly puts Callimaco into phallic overdrive, but makes little of the medical masquerade. John Savident, rashly cast against the complainant husband, presents a consistently implausible image of beaming glibility, even donning a pinny to sweep the steps (a likely act from the Florentine lawyer).

Most bewildering among the night's disappointment is Jim Norton as the corrupt priestly mastermind, Father Timoteo,

whose lecherous confessions and venal sophistries are ironed out into the portrait of a mildly harmless little cleric.

Only when Mr Norton gets into his mask do the Machiavellian sparks fly. Congratulations to Roger Glossop for an imposing Florentine facade.

Anthony Quayle: "HYPNOTIC" STANDARD

Roy Kinnear: "MARVELLOUS" SUNDAY TIMES

Joyce Redman: "EXPLOSIVE" THE TIMES

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Roger Allam Clarence, Brian Blessed Claudius, Kenneth Branagh Looe, Nicholas Farrell Horatio, Virginia McKenna Gertrude, Roger Rees Hamlet Director Ron Daniels

New production, previews from 4 October

LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST

Kenneth Branagh Navarre, Harold Bloomfield Boyel, Frank Middlemiss Holmedale, Edward Petherbridge Don Armado, Roger Rees Berowne, Emily Richard Prince of France Director Barry Kyle

New production, now previewing

RICHARD III

Roger Allam Clarence, Brian Blessed Hastings, Penny Downie Lady Anne, Harold Bloomfield Edward IV, Patricia Routledge Margaret, Antony Sher Richard III, Moleen Starkie Buckingham, Frances Tomelty Elizabeth Director Bill Alexander

Now in repertoire

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

<p



SPORTING DIARY

And here's the buzz

You used a pitch two miles in length, and a dead goat to play buzkashi. Electronic engineer turned farmer George Sesson has both and is convinced he can establish the great Afghan horse game in Wiltshire by the autumn. Buzkashi is said to be akin to mounted rugby – but do not think for a moment that there are no rules. Firearms were banned some time in the 1970s. Knives are still permitted.

Sesson decided to set up buzkashi in Wiltshire after he had seen local polo teams becoming increasingly basic in their approach. And buzkashi is a basic kind of game: between two posts set two miles apart, a dead goat is buried in the centre of a circle 10 yards across. The object is to rescue the goat, carry it round first one post and then the second, and finally to bring the carcass back into the circle. Sesson expects to have 15 or so players ready for the game by the time summer is over. He thinks it is probably better not to play with knives. "We will play a gentlemanly British version," he said.

Quote of the week from an English county cricketer who had better remain anonymous, commenting on the number of South Africans who have represented England at cricket: "Getting like Genghis, isn't it? When the weak link in the side is the only Weiszman."

Caught short

Middlesex were not expecting their wicket-keeper, Paul Downton, to win back his place in the England team. They had to summon Colin Messon, their reserve, from Durham University to take over. Messon could be seen last week writing an essay on the players' balcony at Lord's. He has not been having a tranquil time of it; he had to go to hospital to have a finger X-rayed on Wednesday, and on Thursday got hit on the helmet by Sylvester Clarke when batting. Mike Gatting had a go with the gloves, reviving memories of 1976, when Middlesex used a total of six wicketkeepers in a season, one of them, in a dire emergency, Mike Brearley. They still won the championship that year.

Lady's day

There have been a few pretenders to the title of the first woman cricketer for a match at Lord's. One was a woman who scored for Longbenton in the village final a couple of years back, but her record was topped by a scorer for the Lord's Taverners in the 1960s. The true first is Corporal Fay Speed who scored in the match between a Sandhurst and a Lord's XI on June 14, 1944. The corporal, now Mrs Fay Ashmore, was presented with a replica scorecard of that match to mark the fortieth anniversary of the occasion last week.

In full swing

Henley regatta and its Charley's Aunt charm has never been such a big box office. With three weeks to go all the Saturday badges for the Stewards' enclosure, carefully limited to 7,000, have already been snapped up. Everything pre-sellable has been going faster than ever: car park spaces, lunch and tea tickets, grandstand places, and guest badges for all days. The only way actually to join the Stewards' Enclosure, the holy of holies, is to wait for people to die. If you actually rowed in the regatta, you might be lucky enough to make it in three years or so. It takes longer for the less suitable, and "we don't anticipate any mass resignations", the regatta secretary said.

• Steve Nasty Anderson will captain the United States professional martial arts team which competes at Leamington Spa tomorrow. That is, quite truthfully, his real name.

Drug runner

In a year when American-bred horses took first and second places in the Derby at Epsom, American racing threw up a baffling result: Gate Dancer's victory in the second leg of the American triple crown, the Preakness Stakes. The horse was pumped full of a stimulant called Lasix, legal in Maryland, but banned throughout European racing and also in New York state, where the third leg of the triple crown, the Belmont, is run. And in that race, last Saturday, Gate Dancer was unplaced.

Short delivery

The truly Irish method of settling rain-off matches by having all 22 players bowl at unprotected stumps was in truth invented by the English. It has been used in the village cricket championship for a dozen years, and resorted to on more than 100 occasions. The most protracted time was in 1979, when typical Scottish cricket weather, sleet, thunder, frost and flood, forced the match to be called off. After each team had bowled their 11 balls, the score was 2-2. It was only after a third time, and total of 66 balls, that wet and frozen Rossie Priory beat Fochabers 9-6. In another rain-off match, this time in Kent, the score was locked at 0-0 after 21 balls. The issue was decided by a wicket-keeper, who bowled, dropped the ball almost at his feet, and saw it trundle down the matting wicket on a zigzag course. It came to rest against leg stump – with just enough force to dislodge the bail. Findlay Rea, director of competitions at *The Cricketer*, reveals the secret of success: stand still and bowl a full toss.

Simon Barnes

Hayek, professor of the truth

Roger Scruton reflects on the influence of Mrs Thatcher's philosophical mentor, who is today created a Companion of Honour

have consistently refused to see that they are criticized precisely for their belief that social problems might be solved by a rational plan.

Hayek inherited his first argument from the man who had taught him at the University of Vienna – Ludwig von Mises. Mises claimed that the socialist attempt to achieve a rational allocation of resources inevitably brings about the destruction of the price mechanism, and, with it, of the knowledge required for economic decision. Hayek went further, arguing that the information contained in the price mechanism cannot be collected by any central agency, not because it is too complex, but because it resists translation into a plan.

Economic knowledge is given to us only in use, displayed and preserved in countless daily transactions. Unhampered markets transmit this knowledge, which is otherwise irretrievably dispersed. For, being at once practical and social, economic knowledge is the property only of society as a whole, and is no more capable of existing as a plan than is the knowledge how to play a good game of football.

Hayek's development of this argument is remarkable in two ways. First, he defends the market economy, not as a realization of human freedom (though it is that). His second major argument concerns not the aims of socialism, but its methods, and in particular its attempt to beg all questions by the manipulation of language. In de-

The author is editor of the Salisbury Review.

Bernard Levin prepares for his annual Schubert pilgrimage

Follow my lieder to Hohenems

About this time every year I begin to hum more Schubert than usual; next year, I shall start much earlier. The reason is that the year is moving inexorably towards my annual visit to Hohenems, where for some 12 days or so Schubert may be drunk in breakfast, dinner and tea; particularly tea, as you shall hear. You shall also hear why 1985 will be specially memorable.

The village of Hohenems (432 metres above sea-level, population 13,000, area 2,918 hectares, railway station and bus stop, public swimming pool and tennis court, garage, ski-lift, Post Office hours 8-12 am, 2-5 pm, Monday to Friday) has very little claim on the attention of history. It has a handsome sixteenth-century palace which has seen better days (I had a guided tour of it not long ago, and in parts of the upper storeys I picked my way across floorboards that provoked an uneasy feeling that I might at any moment find myself on the ground floor without benefit of staircase), which was built by the brother of Marcus Sitticus Count-Bishop of Salzburg, and in which an early manuscript of the *Nibelungenlied* was discovered, but at that point Hohenems skips several centuries and arrives at 1976, when Hermann Frey, the German baritone, founded a music festival there, dedicated entirely to the work of Schubert; so evidently, indeed, that it is not called a Festival at all, but a Schubertiade.

I wrote about the Schubertiade in this space a few years ago. For that matter, I have since written about it in the *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times*. I have devoted a chapter of a book to it, and I have broadcast about it on Radio 3. This year's visit will be my seventh consecutive one; the first time I went, in 1978, was the third year of its existence, so it follows that next year the Schubertiade will mark the end of its first decade, and will do so, as I have hinted, in a particularly notable manner.

The phenomenon of Schubert is not only one of the most astonishing in the history of music; it challenges comparison with anything in any field of human endeavour. Certainly, among musicians only Mozart takes the breath away more completely. His entry in the fifth edition of Grove begins with an admirably robust warning against following those biographers and analysts who have tried to trace the springs of Schubert's genius to his Viennese birth and life: "... no amount of Viennese lore will help us when we approach such work as, for instance, the first movement of the string quartet in G major".

True, but then, nothing else will help us either. Indeed, nothing much

will help us when we approach the 21 pages of the catalogue of his works (only Mozart's exceeds it, and Bach's is not much more than half its length), particularly when we contemplate the fact that although Schubert was exceptionally precocious, he was not a child prodigy like Mozart, and virtually the whole of his stupendous *œuvre* was crammed into the last 15 of his 31 years.

That catalogue will bear a heavy load of study. It lists operas, incidental music for plays, Masses and other liturgical music, secular cantatas and some three score miscellaneous choral items, symphonies and other orchestral works, a wagon-load of chamber music, including at least a dozen of the greatest compositions ever written in this genre, violin sonatas, piano sonatas and a vast quantity of other solo keyboard works (the catalogue demurely records "42 Menuetos", "71 Ländler" and "66 Ecossaises") plus 50 or so for piano duet and songs.

Songs: quite so. There are some 600 of them; no one knows how many more he wrote which are lost. And no one else before or since has got anywhere near the breadth or depth of Schubert's combination of art.

Pretoria: open hand in the Swazi turmoil

Johannesburg, Swaziland, a former British protectorate and one of Africa's few remaining traditional kingdoms, is in the throes of the latest round in the intense palace power struggle which has rocked the tiny country – a population of 600,000 in a landlocked, hilly enclave about the size of Wales – ever since the venerable King Sobhuza II died just under two years ago, leaving no clearly designated successor.

This time, however, the in-fighting is mixed up with allegations of a multi-million-pound fraud involving the non-payment of customs duties, and South Africa, Swaziland's giant white-ruled neighbour, appears to have come out publicly in support of one of the feuding parties, Dr Sishayi Ntumalo, the ousted finance minister who now stands accused of high treason.

The crisis broke earlier this month when the prime minister, Prince Bhekini Dlamini-Dlamini is the clan name of the far-flung royal family – called a press conference and dramatically announced the dismissal of Dr Ntumalo. Mr Richard Dlamini, the foreign minister, Colonel Mancome Ntumando, the chief of the army, and Mr Tiusi Msibi, the police commissioner.

Dr Ntumalo claimed that he had been sacked because senior figures in the Lijqoq, a supreme council of tribal elders which effectively runs

the country, were threatened by an inquiry he had launched into the alleged fraud. Pretoria then weighed in, expressing "deep concern" at the dismissals and warning that, if the inquiry was not pursued, it might have to withdraw from the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), to which Swaziland, Botswana and Lesotho also belong.

The sharpness of the South African reaction seemed to take the Lijqoq by surprise, and it took a day or two to answer Dr Ntumalo's allegations. It then accused him of being the ringleader of a plot to force the queen-regent, Queen Ntombi, "to surrender power or face a bloody revolution", and claimed that an attempt by the plotters to seize the keys of the royal armoury had been foiled at the last minute.

It has not gone unnoticed that the "Gang of Four", as the plotters have been dubbed, are strong supporters of rapprochement with South Africa, and that the ousted army and police chief played a key role in the recent crackdown on the guerrilla presence in Swaziland of the underground African National Congress (ANC), the most militant black nationalist organisation in South Africa.

But Swaziland tends to defy conventional political analysis, and there is no real evidence that any of the feuding groups within the Swazi elite disagree about the need for close cooperation with South Africa. Equally tenuous is the thesis

funding the market economy Hayek uses terms which do not feature in socialist polemics. The socialist speaks of "capitalism", and describes the world in terms of a universal opposition between capitalism and socialism – as though all human life were determined by the "ownership" of the means of production", and as though political institutions had no reality except as the extension of economic control. Such language reinforces the foregoing conclusion, and prevents discussion of the real choices which lie before us.

But as the true source of necessary information. The incompetence of socialism is "epistemological". Socialism deprives us of the very knowledge which its projects require. By being "rational", it causes to be reasonable. Second, Hayek extends the argument far beyond the economic sphere, to produce a theory of "spontaneous order", reviving, in modern form, Burke's defence of "prejudice" against the enlightened rationalism of the French revolutionaries.

Third, just as the rational plan is incompetent to deal with the minute problems of economic distribution, so too, Hayek argues, is statutory legislation incompetent to resolve the constantly evolving conflicts between individuals.

Of course, a modern state needs central legislation, just as it needs an economic policy. But, Hayek argues, the purpose of centralized devices is to recreate, in unpropitious conditions, the "spontaneous order" of peaceful coexistence, and the knowledge of ourselves and of each other which that order contains. The purpose, in other words, is to redress the balance against Reason in favour of reasonableness.

Hayek's second major argument concerns not the aims of socialism, but its methods, and in particular its attempt to beg all questions by the manipulation of language. In de-

The author is editor of the Salisbury Review.

given either in the palace courtyard, which holds only 550 people, or in the Rittersaal upstairs, which holds 300. That is the clue to the festival's designation as a Schubertiade, for that is what the intimate drawing-room concerts of his music that were given and attended by his friends used to be called in his lifetime; the Rittersaal, for all its imposing name and handsomely decorated ceiling, is really a drawing-room, and every night our host and hostess, the present owners of the palace, take their place in it to hear the more gifted of their friends play and sing the music of Schubert to those of their friends whose gift is only for listening to it.

Just across the road from the palace is the Schloss Caffé; it serves the most appallingly delicious pastries, accompanied by irresistibly irresistible piles of whipped cream (the waitresses normally ask if the customer wants *Schlagsahne*, but they have long since given up asking me), the only safeguard is that there is not quite time in the intervals to down yet another slice.

The hills and woods and fields of the area are beautiful and unspoilt; it is perfect walking-country, though the walker who sets out in brilliant sunshine can find himself returning in a monsoon. But rain or shine, at least once a day and often twice, the visitors to the Hohenems Schubertiade can drink at the astounding and inexhaustible spring that, for the brief moment that it flows on earth, was called Franz Schubert. I know of nothing else in this world, and can barely guess at anything there might be in the next, that provides such balm for the spirit, such heart-sease, such reinforcement for the eternal truth which sustained him through poverty, illness and the brevity of his life, the truth which states, as every bar of his music does, that nothing bad matters and everything good does.

And now for the best news.

Last year, I was talking to the director of the Schubertiade, Herr Gerd Nachbauer, and he asked me if I was any artist who had not so far performed at Hohenems whom I thought would be suitable and whom I would like to hear there. There is only one who fills all those specifications, and I gave him her name. A conspiratorial smile spread over his face, as he told me that she was booked to sing there in 1985. So if the world has not come to an end before June next year, I shall, sometime in the second half of June, hear Janet Baker sing Schubert for an entire evening. If the world comes to an end the following morning, I shall be in no position to complain.

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the human voice and a piano; if the symphonies, the sonatas, even the chamber music, had all vanished, leaving us with nothing but the songs, we would know beyond doubt that this was one of the most profound spirits the world has ever seen.

It is not surprising that

Hohenems Schubertiade is always built round the songs. This year's, for instance, includes nine songs, circled (though for the first time some

of the programmes include associated items by other composers) as

against four chamber-concerts, three piano recitals and two orchestral

concerts; one of the evenings of song is a performance of the *Winterreise* by Fischer-Dieskau accompanied by Brendel, and another is by Peter Schreier if he turns up, which he usually doesn't. (Though when he does, he convinces me every time he is the now the finest male *Lieder* singer in the world.)

Occasionally, though not this

year, there is a full-sized choral

or orchestral concert which necessitates a shift to the church that stands beside the palace; occasionally (as with the Fischer-Dieskau and Brendel evenings) we decamp en masse to Bregenz, where there is a bigger, modern concert-hall. But otherwise all the performances are

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James Lunt

Sikhs: has Gandhi gone too far?

there must be almost as many Sikhs as Southerns there are in Ludhiana.

"Jat" Sikhs, the agriculturists, are fine-looking men and women. Although Sikhism is an offshoot of Hinduism, Sikhs believe in one god and the casteless brotherhood of man. Nevertheless, they have not entirely succeeded in ridding themselves of caste, their own unmentionables being called *swaddhi*. During the Second World War, the Sikh Light Infantry was raised to recruit Sikhs who would be unacceptable to the Sikhs Regiment, which was composed only of "Jat" Sikhs.

It has been said that to get the best out of a Sikh soldier he has to be worked off his feet and subjected to extra tough discipline. They are much inclined to intrigue, as well as being politically conscious. They can also become violent and cruel. They demonstrated during the horrors following partition. They require firm handling, their warrior virtues notwithstanding.

Whether Mrs Gandhi has assumed the situation to best advantage remains to be seen. She has been accused of "playing politics", closing up by making a martyr of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, whom most educated Sikhs regarded as little more than a religious fanatic. But this does not mean that they have lacked sympathy with the demands for a separate Sikh state, its boundaries extended to include not only Chandigarh but also more Punjabi-speaking areas. This has been the Sikhs' ambition ever since independence. It is probably Mrs Gandhi's acute awareness of the fissiparous tendencies endemic in India which has led her to resist such demands, but in so doing she has come dangerously close to creating divisions within the army.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THEY DO IT AGAIN

The candidates had something to do with it. Labour picked a CND supporter for a city that has known the Royal Navy longer than it has known the Tory Party. You might as well take someone from the Band of Hope to represent Burton-on-Trent. The Tories picked an in-comer with the provenance of the Prime Minister's private office. A good recommendation when adulation for the leader is running high in the party. Adulation is mixed at the moment. The SDP picked a good local government man, strong on conventional defences, responsive to matter-of-fact concern about the jobs market, health care and public welfare. He got his reward, helped no doubt by the late candour about rate capping from the unfortunate Mr Jenkins, who is going the way of Laophon in the serpentine embrace of local government.

The upset to the Conservative majority at Portsmouth does not equal the magnitude of the Alliance gains at the Crosby and Croydon North by-elections in the pre-Falklands winter of 1982. It is still a famous victory one year into the parliament, and it comes at a time when the new political partnership has seemed to be flagging a bit, in the estimation of the public.

Mrs Thatcher prefers to conduct her politics as if the Alliance were not on the stage, a pretence facilitated by the

position and routine of the House of Commons. Now she finds the Alliance taking the curtain calls after the Portsmouth performance - though it remains a weakness that the SDP part of the duet, which came into being to effect a realignment of the left, has not, but for the very special case of Bermondsey, made serious inroads into the Labour vote where it matters most.

For Labour to have dropped votes (even if it put up its percentage slightly) in a contest where the voters turned away from the party of government in droves is a melancholy conclusion for Mr Kinnock. The impression it leaves may be partly erased when the European ballot boxes are opened, though that peculiar election is even less reliable than a single by-election as a pointer to party fortunes in a general election several years away. The Portsmouth result is however another scrap of evidence for the hypothesis that Labour's challenge is expended south of Severn-Trent, barring a few urban fastnesses.

The Speaker of the House of Commons spoke at a luncheon this week about his first year in the chair. Though in jocular mood, he was sharing serious reflections. He dubbed this parliament the Frustration Parliament. The frustration he described came in different forms to different parties, but all

THE ART OF TALKSMANSHIP

President Reagan's declaration that he is willing to meet the Soviet leaders without setting rigid preconditions was understandably interpreted by many as more relevant to the forthcoming elections than to reducing East-West tensions. Both sides have repeatedly emphasized that a summit would only have value if it were properly prepared in order to ensure tangible results - a factor apparently much more important to a participant who is subject to an electorate, than one who can expect to remain in office until removed through normal causes.

Yet it would be quite wrong to see Soviet foreign policy as somehow independent of domestic pressures and therefore less in need of improved relations than the West. Issues ranging from the Iran-Iraq war to the treatment of the Sakharovs have been the subject of "quiet diplomacy" as well as public rhetoric, and in other areas too, President Chernenko would find it impossible to cut all contact with the American administration, even if he does prefer to postpone a summit in the hope, however remote, that there may be a new president in the White House next year.

Where does Soviet foreign policy begin? Administering more than a hundred nationalities in the USSR is already a complex operation in international affairs. President Chernenko has called again for capitalism and communism to live in "peaceful coexistence" but it was Lenin who first used this phrase in his relations with the independent Baltic states, now part of the USSR. Moscow's relations with Comecon members involve a similar blend of internal and external factors.

The West cannot solve Soviet problems by making concessions even if it wished to; the very existence of the "free world" is a threat to the Soviet system. Citizens defect when sent abroad to represent their country; young people who should be concentrating on building the communist future are more attracted by things Western; in an age of computerization Comecon products come a poor second in competition with capitalist industry - which means, of course, that matching US military technology will become increasingly difficult. But a Soviet leadership which feels isolated and driven into a corner, even as a result of their own policies, does not mean a safe world.

When President Chernenko spoke of the dangerous test of strength being imposed on the USSR "by the most reactionary imperialist circles, primarily in the United States" he was acknowledging not only his fears in the elections and if Moscow does not respond positively to his latest initiative, he would still earn votes by being firm, yet open to dialogue.

SOMETHING NASTY IN THE VIDEO

The Third Reading of the Video Recording Bill, which was to have taken place in the House of Lords on Monday, has had to be put off for a week because the Upper House failed this week to complete its Report stage as a result of, in lay language, can only be described as a filibuster. Throughout its passage in the Lords, this Private Members' Bill, which passed the House of Commons with all-party support, and with the backing of Home Office ministers, has been subjected to the delaying tactics of a handful of peers, conspicuously Lord Houghton of Sowerby and Lord Jenkins of Penzance, who have an emotional antipathy to the Bill on uncompromising libertarian grounds. And therefore find themselves in conflict with it, making many of the points advanced by the video trade whose commercial interests are affected by the Bill.

The purpose of this resistance is clearly to have the Bill talked out of Parliament by preventing it from returning to the Commons in time for July 6, the appointed day for dealing with Lords' amendments to Private Members' Bills. If that were to happen, a logjam and highly unrepresentative group of peers, who can be numbered on the fingers of one hand, would have frustrated the wishes not only of the political consensus in the Commons but also of the wider public.

The Bill, as brought in, is as appropriate if such matters by a backbencher. Mr Graham Bright, in response to widespread disquiet at the uncontrolled spread of sadistic and obscene video recordings involv-

ing mutilation, torture and particularly the association of sexual activity with violence - in other words, material now commonly described, by a curious poverty of language, as "video nasties". There is evidence that such material, which can be bought and sold anywhere, is being extensively watched by children (sometimes, unknown to parents, in friends' houses) and that some have been damaged by it. There have also been cases of criminal violence brought to court which left little doubt that watching such videos has helped to condition behaviour.

The Bill therefore attempts to get rid of the video nasties by making it possible for classification to be refused them by a body to which the government delegates responsibility for classifying all video material under the Act. This responsibility, ministers have decided, is to be given to the British Board of Film Censors, expanded and broadened to reflect a wide range of public attitudes. To deal in unclassified video nasties will be illegal.

Secondly, the Bill provides for the public, and most usefully parents, to be given some guidance to the character of the films given a classification. These will be classified, as cinema films are, in a range of categories from those suitable for showing to all ages without qualification, to those suitable for showing only above certain ages, and at the extreme, those given the R (restricted) 18 certificate, now used for films that may be shown only in sex shops. The government itself had wanted R18 videos also to be seen only in sex shops but on that it was unsuccessful in the

Arms control up in the air

From Dr Geoffrey Lee Williams

Sir, Your well-considered editorial (June 11) on "Star wars" will no doubt attract much ill-informed criticism and rebuke. But you are surely right to assert that "a defensive programme would enhance arms control by reducing the potential gains from building offensive weapons".

The Portsmouth by-election underlines the point. The Conservative Party sits pretty with 61 per cent of the seats in the House of Commons while all it can muster is 35 per cent of the votes in plumb Tory territory which it has occupied throughout this century with a majority that had never previously fallen below 7,000. The unease on the Government benches is compounded by the realization that the Cabinet has not, so far in this parliament, communicated the same clarity of objective as it did in the last, or caught (or defined) the mood of the nation in the same way.

But there is one consolation for the Government in the pattern of voting at Portsmouth. The strength of its position at the last general election and since has been that the organized political opposition to it divides into two not far from equal blocks. There were - still are - signs of a reversion to something like the customary two-and-a-quarter parties position, at which point a government that had lost its popularity in the second year of parliament would have cause to fear the future. Portsmouth suggests that the counter-Tory split remains, in terms of votes, pretty even.

Nothing could be more calculated to bring the Soviet Union to the negotiating table than a technological breakthrough in defensive capabilities. The need for a strategic doctrine compatible with an arms control to strategic defence is now urgent.

A victory-denial strategic doctrine should encourage the United States to pursue real and radical reductions in offensive weapons through the START negotiations.

Finally, a strategic posture based on real strategic defence would be more compatible with the extended deterrent responsibilities placed on US strategic forces.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY LEE WILLIAMS,
Institute of Political and Economic
Studies,
Shield House,
26 Egerton Gardens, SW3.
June 13.

Thoughts on D-Day

From Commander J.W.R. Thompson, RN

Sir, With reference to the letter in *The Times* (June 9) from Lord Airey and Sir John Colville, the War Office official estimate of expected casualties, i.e. killed and wounded, on D-Day was 30 per cent of all men landed that day, whereas the actual figure was 3 per cent.

Furthermore, the War Office confirmed right up to a few days before D-Day to complain that the Admiralty were not making proper provision for the evacuation of casualties.

These facts should be known, and I consider they justify the statement in your leading article of June 6 that "the British right up to the day remained deeply cautious and unconvinced" in the desire to confront the German Army on the Continent.

Yours faithfully,
J.W.R. THOMPSON,
Commander, RN,
Lavender Hill,
Rectory Lane,
Pulborough,
Sussex.
June 9.

A career in the police

From Mr J. K. Clark

Sir, Both your leading article of June 4 and Chief Constable Birch's letter of June 7 expressed concern about filling senior appointments in the police service.

As a careers master I used to encourage able sixth-formers, who were aiming at a commission in the Armed Services to consider the police as an alternative career. I had no success. The Armed Services had too many attractions: a sponsored undergraduate scheme, an elite entry system and more challenging and better paid posts than the top.

I believe that the police service should be tapping the same pool of leadership as the Armed Services. To do so it will have to offer the inducements they offer. Can it hope to do that without some form of national police force?

Yours faithfully,
J. K. CLARK,
178 Prichard Drive,
Bedford.
June 11.

Use of WEA grant

From Miss Elizabeth Monkhouse

Sir, In his excellent article of June 5 on the damage sustained by adult education under cuts imposed by the Government, Philip Whinney states in mitigation that "the WEA (Workers' Educational Association) has a special grant to reach out to the adult unemployed".

He may be forgiven for believing this to be so, since ministerial statements have been confusing to all except those toads beneath the boughs who know exactly what each tooth-point goes.

The sum proposed for work with the unemployed is £2.5m over three years, a little more than the amount already axed from the budgets of the WEA and the university extra-mural departments combined.

However, some 40 per cent of it is to be spent on regional administration, leaving rather less than 50 pence per head of the unemployed population for teaching purposes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How to cut Third World debt burden

From Mr D. R. W. Potter

Sir, Mr Rodney Leach's proposal in his letter (June 11) about a possible solution to the world debt crisis has considerable merit. However, like all other proposals that it contains, it contains a certain artificiality.

It seems to me that one of the fundamental problems is that interest rates are simply too high, and very little attention seems to have been paid to actual methods of their reduction, beyond continued statements by everybody except the Americans that this is crucial.

The solution is an "Interest-rate Smithsonian", whereby all leading countries would simultaneously agree to a, say, 30 per cent reduction in the level of their interest rates. This move should be synchronised with clear action by the United States to do something about their deficit.

The immediate benefit of this move would be to reduce substantially the burden of the debt to the Third World countries. There would be no impact on money supply the next day, nor would there be on relative exchange rates.

It would seem that the present obsession with supply of money (resulting in inflation continually being fuelled by increasing the cost of money) has produced a market psychology that is likely to continue to anticipate progressively higher rates.

Thus the attempts to reduce inflation are doing nothing other than providing an upward spiral of real interest rates to the detriment of the recovery of the world economy and the possibility for the Third World to repay their debts, let alone service them.

In this connection, it is instructive to remember that 25 years ago it was a universally accepted truth that an increase in the supply of a commodity would reduce the price. One wonders whether we are not being slaves to the current economic nostrums of monetarism in having stod that theory on its head.

What the world clearly needs is to see that a downward spiral of lower interest rates with lowering inflationary expectations can be created and that a new economic order could spring therefrom.

Clearly this requires great political commitment and although central bankers may have all sorts of contingencies in their bottom drawers, the history of the last decade shows that edging over the precipice is a bad spur to action. It creates massive gyrations in financial markets, all of which have tended to increase interest rates and therefore increase inflationary pressure.

Unless we have a completely new direction, the day is drawing near when debtors may be forced to take unilateral action to protect their

Prince and architects

From Mr Brian Lingard

Sir, The pride and place given to the letter from Sherban Cantacuzino (June 6) responding on behalf of that section of the architectural profession who have been shaken by those brave words from the Prince of Wales, is most appropriate.

The part which has been played by the architectural press in the years since the war in promoting a brutal and anti-establishment form of modern architecture is a most significant one.

Week after week, or month after month, throughout the 1960s and 1970s, *The Architects' Journal* and the *Architectural Review* (the latter magazine under the stewardship of Mr Cantacuzino from 1968 until three or four years ago) have consistently lauded the use of raw concrete, expressed structural frames, unfamiliar cladding materials and exposed service pipes in new buildings.

They have in this way influenced a whole generation of young and inexperienced architects (and many of their elders who should have known better) to follow all the abrasive and illiterate architectural fashions, from the New Brutalism of the 1950s to the High-Tech of the 1980s. An appalling legacy has been created, and indeed is still being created, which will remain expensively with us for many years to come.

In what must have been an accidental but extremely well timed, article on the Leicester University engineering building in *The Architects' Journal* of June 6, 1984, there are, however, signs that the folly of past years is at last being seen by the present incumbents at the architectural press.

When this controversial building was first completed in 1963, *The Journal* said "... out of this clash of site, functional demands and architectural temperament, Leicester Engineering emerges as a vital and nearly faultless solution" and "... it has given future architects and building committees a

challenge for future efforts" and finally, "... it is the living illustration of total architecture". There can, however, seldom have been so damning an article written on any building as the new appreciation of that same Leicester engineering block which has now appeared in the same magazine. The description now in 1984 is given as "... a heap of oxidising geometrical junk..." and "... a draughty and dirty building".

The catalogue of criticisms that follows reveals this previously idealized structure for what it really is - an ill-conceived, badly detailed, rusting and disintegrating hulk of metal and glass, as yet barely 20 years old.

The Norwich Sainsbury building, the Paris Pompidou Centre and many other buildings built in similar idioms, so mistakenly encouraged by Mr Cantacuzino and his journalist colleagues, are likely to follow the same route to visual disintegration, expensive maintenance and eventual premature demolition.

From this small corner of the architectural profession - well said, Prince Charles!

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN LINGARD,
Lingard and Partners,
5 Pall Mall, SW1.
June 8.

From Professor Michael J. French

Sir, Mr Manser (June 8) gives the example of the Crystal Palace in defence of architects against philistines. But Ruskin, who criticised it, was no ordinary man, but the "trendy" architectural critic of the day, and Paxton, who designed it (hence the "cucumber frame" jibe) and finally, Stephenson and Brunel, who acclaimed the sketch design, were philistine engineers.

Philipps 1, RIBA nil, I think. Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL J. FRENCH,
4 Haverthwaite Place,
Lancaster.
June 10.

and since the fund is for the use of universities, local education authorities and voluntary organisations concerned with adult education, the share of the WEA is not likely to be large.

Yours sincerely,
ELIZABETH MONKHOUSE,
Deputy President,
Workers' Educational Association,
Temple House,
9 Upper Berkeley Street, W1.

British entry to China

From Professor Malcolm Harper

Sir, The Director General of the British Council report (June 6) to the British cultural presence in China. While working in that country last month I was impressed by the contrast between the council's arrangements for supporting links between academic institutions and the "foreign aid" approach adopted by other individual countries and international agencies.

China appears to be the latest target of the aid system and many donors are competing in their efforts to give away various forms of training and technical assistance which the Chinese are in fact quite willing and able to pay for themselves and which are only devolved by being offered as gifts.

The British Council scheme, however, is an exactly reciprocal arrangement, whereby each side pays for its own travel costs and the local expenses of the visitors from the other side.

Mr Burgh tells us that some 30 links are being financed under this scheme; this surely demonstrates the wisdom of this approach, and the council is to be congratulated both for saving taxpayers' money and for treating the Chinese with the respect they most assuredly deserve.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM HARPER,
Cranfield School of Management,
Cranfield Institute of Technology,
Cranfield,
Bedford.
June 7.

China appears to be the latest

Christian witness and faith

From the Reverend J. L. Houlden

Sir, What exactly do theologians and historians of the world's religions such as your Durham correspondents (June 9) require of a man of similar attributes who becomes a bishop? It is not easy to see.

If the requirement is that Christian belief should be unchanged from earliest times, then they know that it is easy to give examples of change, both in substance and from the effect of the shift in intellectual and cultural context. No modern historian can subscribe to the view that religious beliefs proceed through history as if in an insulated capsule or enclosure.

If the requirement is that essential beliefs may change, then we must know who is to decide what is essential and what is not. And still no such requirement can do away with the facts of change.

But supposing it is admitted that beliefs may change and that a Christian now may even deny what his predecessors affirmed (e.g., that the virgin birth was an "event", or that heresy should be forcibly extirpated, or that the wicked will be punished eternally), then is the state of former believers best described as one of "deception"? It would be bleak to look at the matter in this way of looking at the matter to say Newton was "deceived" because he did not know Einsteinian physics.

No, to use the favoured Durham term,

15, 16
Travel: In search of the real Japan; a weekend break to three gardens; and a visit to Iona; Out and About: Boating

17, 18
Values: Toying with new ideas; Drink; Family Life; In the Garden; Bridge; Chess; Concise crossword; Collecting: A Sheraton?

THE TIMES

Saturday

16-22 JUNE 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

19
Review: Fairy-tales with the stars on video; Galleries: Story of a portrait; Photography; Concerts; Rock & Jazz

21, 22
The Week: Critical guide to Television, Radio, Opera, Dance, Theatre, Films, Sport and Auctions

Solitude can be hard to find in the world of high finance. Where to turn when money is no object? The atoll in the South Pacific? The Turks and Caicos? In the second of an occasional series, our volunteer is offered carte blanche to spend one day exactly as he pleases - and after some reflection, he chooses Greece...

My Perfect Day

Part 2: Basil Boothroyd

Five minutes to midnight. Agean time. Five minutes 10 seconds, to be accurate. And you can't get more accurate, for the bedside table, than my late seventeenth-century Viennese quarter-pecker since I had its works fooped out and made over to fit chip.

When Bilson came in just now to say out my pyjamas, from force of habit he picked the watch up to set its Dow Jones and FT index displays. "Clear off Parsons", I told him. He could have wrecked the whole place for twenty-four hours' incidence.

I think he's Bilson. Staff names are a problem. I may have been confusing him with the Fungus man at my house in the Ipuvala, the idiot who was down in the deep-sherbet annex when I was last there in '82, and put his foot through a couple of Picassos. Not that Bilson, that's who he is, can't be just a dumb. The whole staff here had been telelexed in tropical Paris, Washington and Geneva, to keep off my neck for the day. That didn't stop him lining them all up when I leaped out on to the helicopter pad, and fighting me for my bird luggage.

You can't rely on people. It's been a full treat all day, not having a thing. It was new and invigorating, just laying out my own electric hair brushes.

This has been a good a choice to relax on Paromor-

gos and Caicos. Staff of 20, hand-picked, I hadn't been there for three years since last Wednesday. Hardly off the yacht before he was pouring out a tale about the head guard-dog, having littered, and would I choose names for the pups. And up in the master-suite that Chinese so-called valet hadn't been able to wait. Practically pounced on me. Did I realize that 20 of my suits there now had oblique lapels? "Vu Ku-pong", I told him, or whatever he called himself, "there's a floppy disc of all my addresses with resident tailors. New York, Monte Carlo, Dar es Salaam... He stripped my other socks off.

I ought to come here more often. For this day off it was a toss-up, as a matter of fact, between here and the great rambling Funafuti joint. Or I suppose I could have stayed on the Turks and Caicos. Decisions, decisions. Funafuti being the capital of the Tuvalu Islands, once the Gilbert and Ellice, the place there isn't actually in it, of course. It has a population not far short of a thousand. Admittedly they're mostly my own workers, in G & E Phosphates, G & E Copra, etc., but it means crowds. I'm just on one of the smaller atolls. Spotted it one day from the air. Looked ideal for building Handy overnight stop if I should be that way again.

So I gave the go-ahead to my architects, and they got the foundations down and the airstrip laid - and then I fired the whole architectural division. They were all right on lentil warehouses, or prising out a Grinling Gibbons ceiling from somewhere and sticking it up where I wanted it. They knew damn-all about South-West Pacific atolls only standing 15ft above sea level at the highest point. I ended with the whole thing on 24 marble stilts, not cheap. Never mind the chain-lift to get me up there, and then never feeling that safe.

No, I'd gone there for the day I could never have thrown care to the winds, as here. It's been perfect here.

Though, to philosophize, is perfection really on? I've been thinking about that. People dismiss your average billionaires as a bit short on philosophy. It's true we haven't got a lot of chance to fit in. Not even in the air. The first couple of old turboprops I had, I thought now's your chance. Flying-time could be thinking-time; and not your everyday stuff about whether to merge Todditoys with Associated Rotorua Geyser, or make West Indies Banana a holding company for Intercontinental Glue; pure pondering on the nature of life. Aristotle used to do it. Not Onassis, the other one.

Those islanders as it is. Having ordered the ruins knocked down and re-erected at my museum in Palermo, or possibly Denver, it turned out I was on a double winner. Not only no tourists, but the view cleared for me. You don't want to see a shambles of mouldering of Greek pillars every morning when someone glides open your Aubusson tapestry curtain.

Not a big fuse. More of a cottage. No art gallery. Tiny banqueting hall. Couple of pools for a range of shape.

Take butler Bates on Turks



One never, one of these times, for someone to tell me I'm talking a load of garbage. I nearly put this to Julian the barman when I went off to the Jacuzzi cocktail. Necess, still, in a reflective mood. But you have to watch your words in our position. They might trigger a reflex. You also have to watch Julian, according to an oblique hint in his last security screening. Probably nothing in it, though I noticed now that our thumbs touched appreciably when he mopped a spirit of Angostura off the bar. And that leak over the Allied Pneumatics deal was never traced. You walk on egg-shells.

They always agree. Crawlers.

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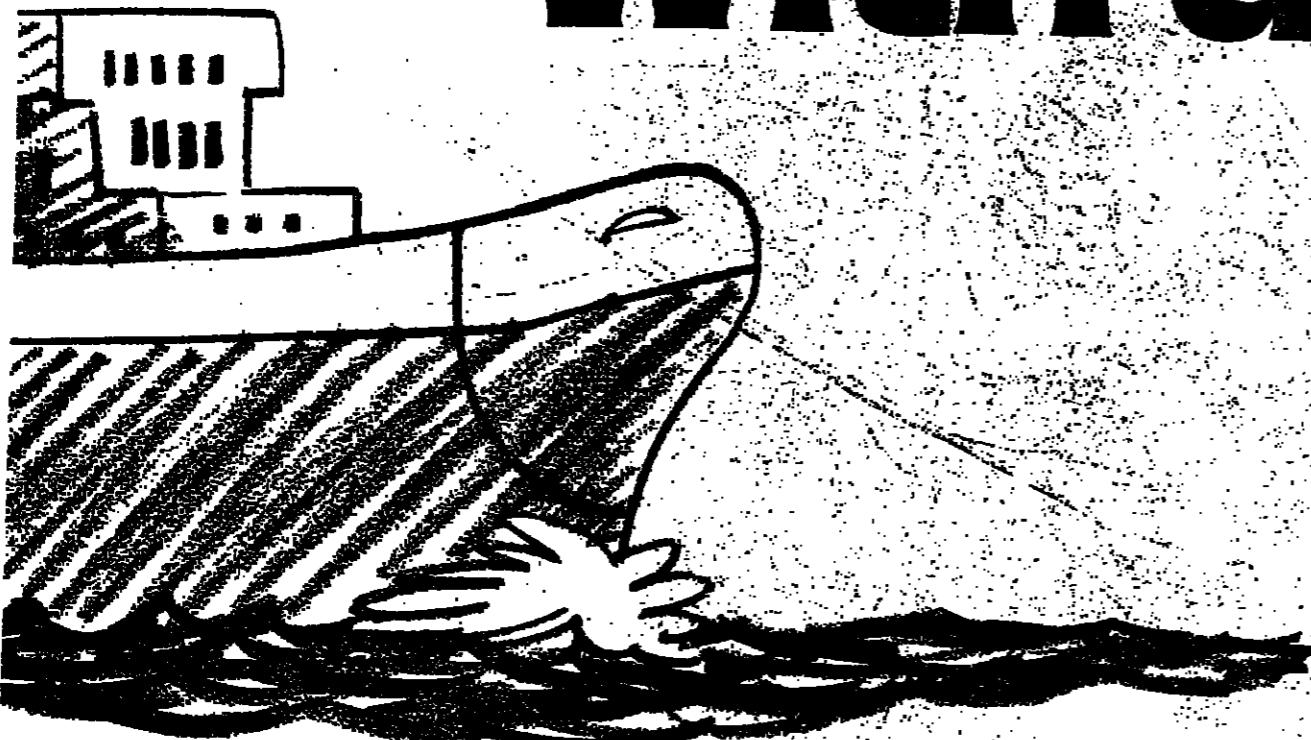
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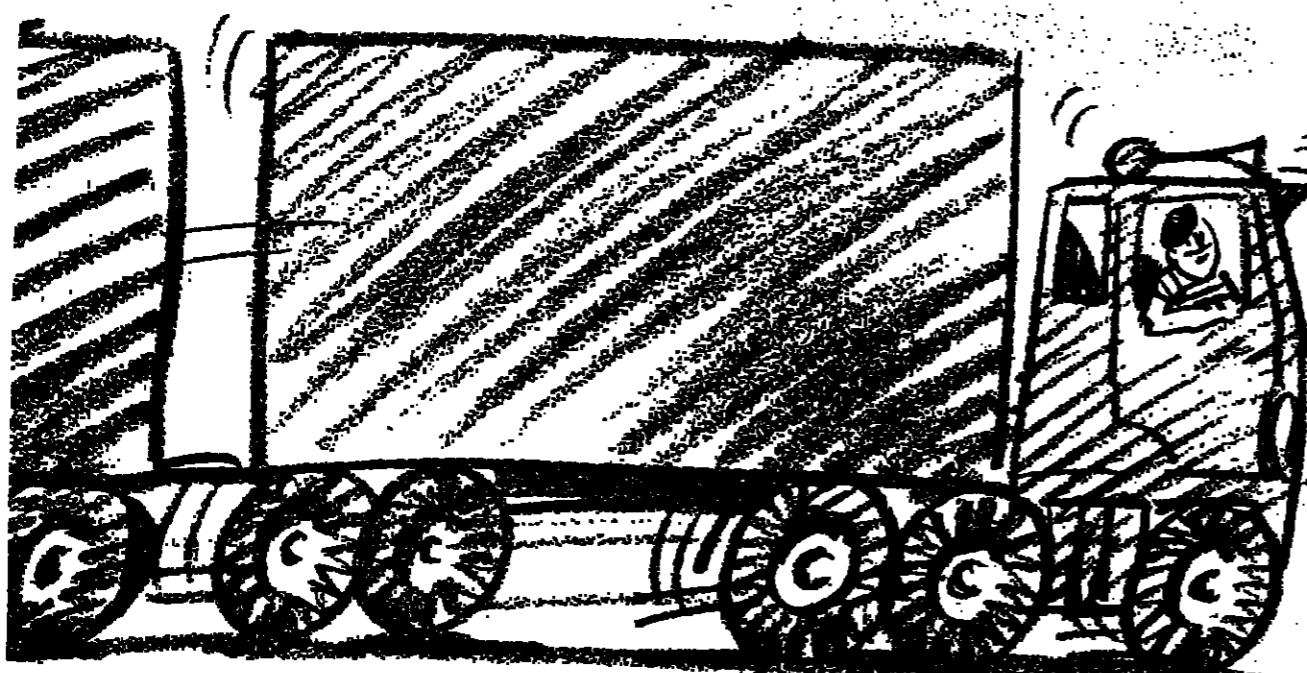
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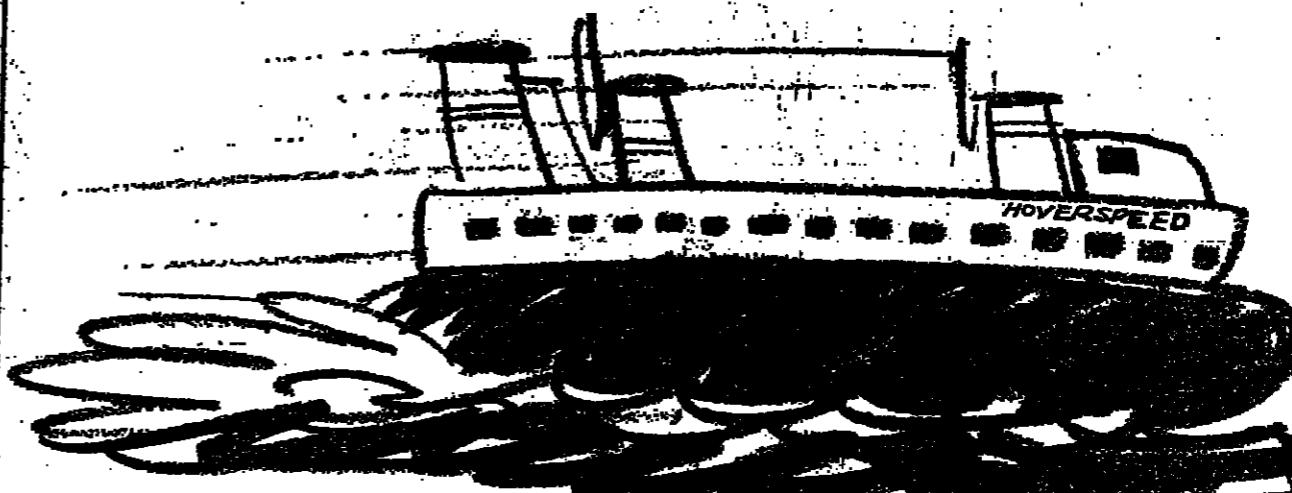
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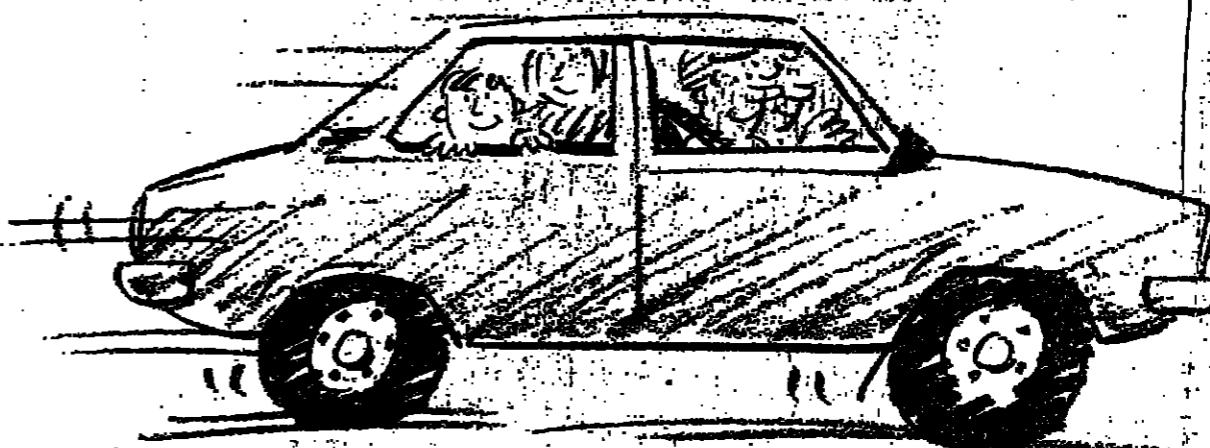
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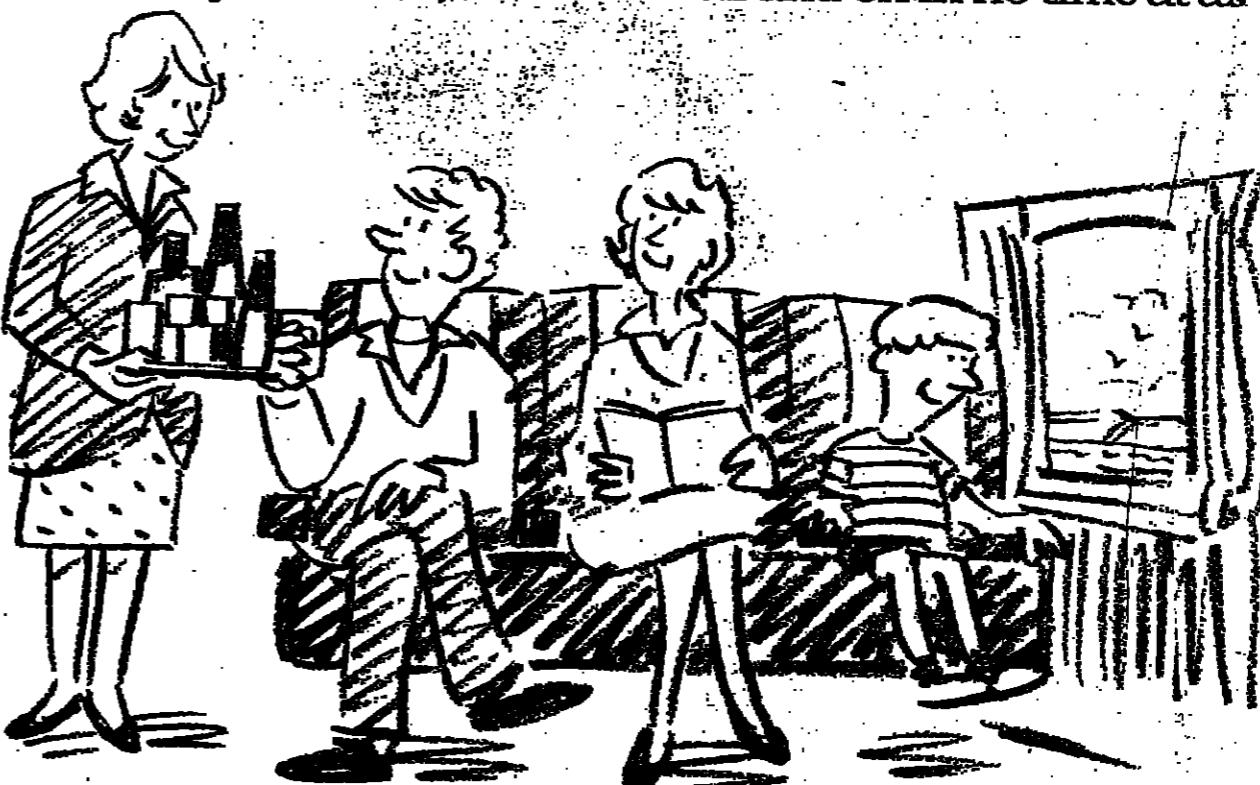
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TRAVEL
NOTES



Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL 1

How the streets of the samurai's scalp kept invaders at bay

I used to pride myself on my sense of direction until I came to Kanazawa. There, sitting in the back seat of Oharasan's BMW, conspicuously grand amid the swarm of Hondas and Toyotas, I realized I did not have the first idea which way we were going.

The intricate maze of narrow streets that make up the city was the idea of the feudal lords, the Maeda clan, to confound invaders. So effective was the ploy that today's less hostile visitors, armed with modern maps, can wander for hours trying to find the way back to their hotels. Kanazawans visiting unfamiliar parts of the city are invariably late for appointments.

With a population of 450,000, Kanazawa is the second-largest city on the Japan Sea coast, what the Japanese call "the other side of Japan". What makes it special is that, unlike many other Japanese cities, it has never been destroyed by earthquake, volcano, typhoon or war. Without the destructive twist that other cities have gone through, Kanazawa has grown, giving it a settled feeling of comfortable intimacy with the past.

Kanazawa, about 180 miles north-west of Tokyo, is easily reached by plane or train, yet foreign visitors are few. Those who venture this far from the well-defined path along which the Japanese authorities try to shepherd the foreign tourist are amply rewarded.

In spite of his Irish-sounding name Oharasan is the proprietor of the Hachiro *sushi* shop. He befriended us instantly and over the next few days insisted on showing us his native city. He

Huge carp and cherry trees

explained with a chuckle that Kanazawans take a wry delight in their bewildering geography.

By way of a handy hint for orientation, he told us that from the air the city resembles a samurai's scalp, the hills representing the hair. Appropriately the okknot is occupied by Kanazawa's two most prominent attractions, Kenroku Park and the castle site, between the twin river valleys of the Sai and the Asano.

Kenroku is recognized as one of the three most beautiful gardens in Japan. Small by London standards, the park is laid out with all the aesthetic exactitude and economy of space associated with Japanese gardens. Every tree is lovingly tended and shaped, every turn in a path reveals a vista of nature in stylized perfection. The tea house appears to hover above the lake; a waterfall cascades on to rocks positioned to produce the perfect pitch of splash; huge carp glide among the reflections of the cherry trees on the island; but the perfect serenity engendered by the view is shattered by the squawk of a guide's loud-hailer explaining that one of the chief virtues of the garden is its peace.

The park was completed in its present form by the twelfth Lord Maeda in 1622. As with so much of the Maeda legacy, close inspection reveals the curious blend of artistic refinement and constant fear of attack that was the millieu of the feudal Japanese aristocracy. The water features that do delight the eye are part of the supply system for the adjacent castle. The water is piped through stone and wooden conduits, the lake is the reservoir, and the fountain, the oldest in Japan, provided a ready means for the engineers to check the pressure from the safety of the castle walls.

The source was a mystery

Peter Ingham visits the ancient Japanese city of Kanazawa to find, in a maze of back

alleys, silk dyers, lantern makers, potters, geishas and touch-free bars



tunnel runs from the well to the castle.

Later, in a spirit of reckless adventure, we plunged unaccompanied into the larger labyrinth of back streets. Here we found some of the traditional shops and businesses of a kind rare elsewhere in Japan.

We came across a street bar, where the passer-by can stop for a quick cup of *sake*, a *samisen* maker's workshop, a herbal pharmacist. The ash-grey weathered wood of the houses huddled beneath their roofs of glazed black tiles spoke of another age. A *tofu* vendor pushed a cart and rang a handbell. Old women in kimonos emerged to buy his wares and from behind the paper window blinds came the twang of a *koto* or the slap of a hand-drum. Glimpses through partly open doors revealed craftsmen at work: a paper-lantern maker, a potter, a carpenter constructing *tatami*.

To their lasting credit, the Maedas encouraged the local crafts and imported artists to enrich the indigenous culture. Today Kanazawa is an important centre for the traditional arts, especially lacquerware, gold-leaf work and pottery. But the jewel in the crown is *Kaga yuzen* (silk dyeing).

Todosan, a friend of Oharasan and a noted *yuzen* designer, took us to his workshop and those of his colleagues to explain the 14 painstaking manual processes required to produce breathtaking kimonos.

Smoked bream and boiled crab

Each of the specialized skills requires a 10-year apprenticeship.

No less conspicuous than its crafts is Kanazawa's cuisine. There are enough eating places to make it possible to have three meals a day at a different restaurant for more than two years without visiting the same place twice. Everything is offered, from European dishes to the local Kaga cooking, which enjoys the same reputation in Japan as Perigordine food does in France. We settled first for a succulent boiled crab and smoked sea bream.

In Kenroku there are watering holes of every kind from the usually warm of the "Tudor Pub" to the enticingly named "touch-free" bars where young men will sit on the customer's knee, from the narrow haunts of the tired company man to elegant saloons where with matronly grass-widows. Outside the brightly lit streets present a vivid pantomime of tipsy pedestrians dodging sozzled cyclists.

With a boozey confidence we declined Oharasan's offer to share a taxi and strode off to bed. Half-an-hour later, hopelessly lost, we wound up in the *Kurioza*, the geisha district. After the garish neon of the modern city, the small white lanterns by the doors and the narrow wooden slats over the windows seemed decorous and discreet. A geisha in a bright silk kimono passed, the clatter of her wooden shoes echoing in the quiet street.

Suddenly suffused by an hilarious joy and steering by the stars, we staggered off home-wards, two small creatures crawling across a small *tatami* mat dashed ghoulish fantasies.

The temple was a Maeda bolthole and it is said that a

Japanese gem: The Ishikawa Gate (above) of Kanazawa Castle and the Kototoi stone lantern in Kenroku park

until recently because, according to legend, Lord Maeda, valuing discretion above the obligations of gratitude, had the chief engineer executed as a precaution against treachery.

In spite of the ubiquitous imprint of the Maedas, Kanazawa has an earlier claim to fame. In 1488 a coalition of priests and peasants overthrew the ruling samurai and established the only republic ever to occupy Japanese soil. Self-rule endured for nearly a century before the arrival of the Maeda clan.

To obliterate the memory of the republic the Maedas built their castle on the site of the revolutionary headquarters.

The inner part of the castle was destroyed by a fire in 1881, but the massive outer walls and the towering Ishikawa Gate still testify to what must have been an imposing fortress. Few

Kanazawans can have enjoyed a view of it, however, as it was a capital offence to climb to any

frequent flights from Haneda Airport in Tokyo to Komatsu, followed by a 30-minute bus journey, for about £25 return. It is a 2½-hour trip by super express train from Kyoto, return fare about £33.

A double room in a western-style hotel costs about £27 a night.

For the more adventurous there are Japanese inns, *ryokan*, at about £25 per person, including supper and breakfast. The truly hardy or those on a tight budget may prefer a *minshuku* at about £14 a person with two meals. This is the Japanese equivalent of a bed and breakfast, except there is no bed and the breakfast is an uncompromising mixture of fish, rice, soup and pickles.

There is only one guide book to Kanazawa in English, *Kanazawa, the Other Side of Japan* by Ruth Stevens (£1.50, hardback), published by the Society to Introduce Kanazawa to the World. Fortunately it is thorough and well-researched, although some of the restaurant and shopping information is out of date. It is available from the large bookshops in the city or in Tokyo.

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VALUES

Playing the game with parents

Playtime is extremely hard work for the toy manufacturers these days. It is no longer enough to produce baby dolls and building blocks, teddy bears and trains. Today's toys must be creative, active, safe, non-sexist and non-racist since psychologists, physiotherapists and politicians took a hand in child development.

Parents appreciated the value of learning through play long before the professionals and had it not been for their insistence the National Association for the Welfare of Children, the Pre-School Play Groups and the Toy Libraries Association would never have existed.

Only one of these groups, said Dr Elizabeth Newson of Nottingham University last week, did not have to fight professional prejudices. The Toy Libraries Association was welcomed because for value for handicapped children was recognized immediately.

"Otherwise the history of the relationship between education authorities and parents has not been happy", said Dr Newson, who with her husband Professor John Newson founded the Child Development Research Unit at Nottingham.

"There was a lot of resistance to parents taking part in the early education of their children", she said. "And for a long time the toy industry went along with those ideas. The sort of toys that parents were shown at

school open days were available only on an educational supply invoice. There has been a big change in the past 10 years. Parent groups produced lists of best toys and other parents set out to buy them."

The importance of the interaction of children and adults through play was emphasized by Professor Newson. Research did not prove, he said, that children who have the benefit of an early nursery school education did any better than those who started school at five.

"In nursery schools children enjoy themselves and play with each other a lot, but they are not interacting with those who have skills which they will need later, like reading and writing. They talk to an adult only 2 per cent of the time they are at a nursery school."

"Babies, on the other hand, are very active learners and develop their learning skills through their relationship with an older person. By about 10 months they are capable of conveying thoughts to those around them - what they like and don't like - without words.

"This is the foundation for the way in which they eventually learn language, and if you want nursery education to be the foundation for something like competence in reading and writing later on, you must introduce a relationship related to those skills instead of leaving it to incidental learning."

Pre-school toys

Realizing the importance of early learning, Waddingtons last week introduced a range of learning-through play products aimed specifically at three to five year olds. It is called Playworld and includes 29 products including simple games, counting and spelling, jigsaws, dominoes, activity and construction toys.

Among the most appealing are Chunky Dominoes and the Teaching House. The dominoes are easy-to-handle chunks of sturdy card with domino spots on one side and transport pictures on the other - buses, planes, cars, ships, helicopters. For age three, plus, they cost £1.49.

The Teaching House is a plastic house shape with windows and shutters. There are 10 cards - alphabet, counting, adding and so on - and the child slots in a card and lifts the window shutters to find the answers. For age four plus, £2.99. Both games are available at branches of Woolworths.

Learning through shared experience is affecting the ranges produced by Playkool, owned by the American company Milton Bradley. They were pioneers of electronic toys in the pre-school market but they are now detecting a move towards conventional board games.

"Many parents are recognizing

that videos and computers are solitary activities and are saying 'let's buy something we can all enjoy together'."

Among their latest toys for younger children are two washable rag dolls dressed in clothes designed to teach the use of zips, buttons, poppers and faces; they will be available shortly at Fenwicks, Brent Cross for around £7.

It has to be admitted, though, that the toys giving most enjoyment to the pre-school children invited to the launch of the ranges in Hyde Park last week were the "in" toy of the season, a four-wheel drive, battery-operated truck with forward, neutral and reverse gears called Big Foot (for about £9 from most British Home Stores in September) and a plastic cooking hub with a pop-up toaster and the appealing name of Lil' Lady (available shortly at Fenwicks, Brent Cross for around £5).

It would be pleasant to say that the British product was

Quadro and Gumbo are both large-scale construction kits which make climbing frames and have wheels to make them mobile, so there is plenty of scope for imaginative active play. Gumbo's contribution to the original idea is a new form of connector which easily clicks into place, but needs for safety reasons a special key to disconnect.

That apart, there is little to distinguish one from the other. Both come in various sets. Quadro has three sizes from 74 pieces at £59.95 to 133 pieces at £99.95, wheels extra at £29.95 per pair. Gumbo has two sizes, with or without wheels, 92 pieces at £59.95 and 144 pieces at £99.95, but the tubes are stiffer (deliberately, because they are easier for a child to grip).

It would be pleasant to say that the British product was

Geoff Sims

Activity equipment

When it comes to activity equipment there seems to be as much jostling for position among the manufacturers as among the children who play with their products. This year there is a new British version of the highly acclaimed German-made Quadro system. It has been produced by Quadro's erstwhile distributor, Bob Magid, and is called Gumbo.

Outdoor activities: Shell sandpit and paddling pool by Moustrose (left) costs about £27; and junior trampoline by Allison

perfect, but when we watched a very gymnastic child playing on the Gumbo frame the structure moved quite noticeably, which may not be unsafe but does not give the appearance of the sturdy solidity of Quadro. One of our consumer testers has had Quadro for two years and has found it completely stable, even under the weight of 12 children at a time. Quadro is available from all branches of John Lewis, from Early Learning Centres and Hamleys. Gumbo will be at Galt shops and branches of W. H. Smith next month.

Climbing frames in galvanized steel tubing with a range of add-on swings, slides, trapeze rings and scrambling nets are made by TP Activity Sports. Their Explorers' Frame at £150 can be fitted with a platform (£19.95) and ladder (£11.95). There is also an upstairs tent

£29.95) and a downstairs tent, £24.95. The range can be seen at branches of John Lewis.

Another outdoor toy which looks terrific fun is TP Activity Slippery Slide. A 10m length of plastic, it can be used in conjunction with a garden slide - water dribbled down the slide produces a fast acquainting effect without the need for a pool (£14.95 at John Lewis).

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THE WEEK

Sport

ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW: Continues today at the National Equestrian Centre in Birmingham, when the main event is the Radio Rentals Puleusence. It is the one in which competitors are eliminated as the big red wall gets higher and higher. Television coverage, BBC1, 9.15-10.30pm. The show ends tomorrow with the Everest Grand Prix, also on BBC1, from 10.35pm.

CANADIAN GRAND PRIX: Alain Prost's win in the race at Monaco put him 10½ points ahead of his nearest challenger, Niki Lauda, in the motor racing drivers' world championship, with René Arnoux, who won the Canadian event last year, in third place and Derek Warwick of Britain in fourth. Highlights of the race, from Gilles Villeneuve circuit, near Quebec, BBC1, tomorrow, 10.35pm.

EASTBORNE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS: A chance for the world's top women players to warm up for Wimbledon on the immaculate grass courts of Devonshire Park. The formidable Martina Navratilova will be trying to win the event for the third year running, while the top Briton, Jo Durie, is seeded fifth.

ROYAL ASCOT: Gets under way on Tues with the Royal Drive and the fancy hats, and the cardinals are being shown on BBC1 from 1.40pm and BBC2 from 3pm. On Thurs, the richest race of the meeting, the £40,000 Gold Cup, BBC1, 3pm.

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Four relatively unfranchised sides contest the semi-finals of cricket's 55 overs

competition on Wed, with Yorkshire playing Warwickshire at Headingley and Lancashire taking on Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge. Television coverage of one of the games on BBC1 from 10.55am and BBC2 from 3pm.

Auctions

NINETEENTH-CENTURY PAINTINGS: This is the week for all lovers of Victorian painting to descend on London. Sotheby's and Christie's between them have six sales of nineteenth-century paintings and drawings. Highlights at Sotheby's on Tues are Miles, Leighton, Sorolla and Hermann – and a small version of Gericke's wonderfully sexy "Rolle". At Christie's on Thurs great works by Liotard and Arthur Hughes are joined by Friedrich.

All the sales will be on view from Mon, Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (0193 8080), European Paintings and Drawings Tues, 7.30pm; European paintings Wed, 11am and 2.30pm; European drawings and watercolours Thurs, 2.30pm.

Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (0193 9060), Continental pictures and drawings Thurs, 11am, Important pictures Fri, 11am.

Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (0193 9060) Wed and Thurs, 11am and 2.30pm.

CHINESE TREASURES: Sotheby's and Christie's hold their major summer sales of Chinese ceramics and works of art this week. At Sotheby's on Tues there is a

thirteenth-century monochrome

and a rare collection of archaic bronze. At Christie's on Wed a rare and charming Tang Dynasty



Low humour: Drawings by Sir David Low of Lord Haileman (left) and C. E. M. Joad and a book cover design (see Other events)

pottery goose rubs shoulders with an exceptionally fine Northern Celadon vase and a Yuan fourteenth-century blue and white dish, while snuff bottles and jades follow on Thurs.

Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (0193 9060) Wed and Thurs, 11am and 2.30pm.

FURNITURE TREASURE: A superb and rare secretaire of 1780 from the German workshop of the Röntgen family, father and son Abraham and David, is expected to

fetch more than £100,000 in Phillips' furniture sale on Tues.

Phillips, 7 Blenheim Street, London W1 (0193 6002). Viewing today 'Sam', Mon, and morning of sale, Sat Tues 11am.

DUCAL GOLD: Two other sales being held at Phillips on Tues: modern British pictures and sculpture, and fine jewels, which include a glittering collection of gold items from the Dukes of Cambridge.

Phillips, 7 Blenheim Street, London W1 (0193 6002). Modern British pictures and sculpture, Tues, 11am and 2.30pm.

Radio

GOLD CHAINS: Christie's are offering a collection of gold chains in their sale of antique jewellery on Wed. One they date to around 1650, another is identical to a chain found on an eighteenth-century Spanish wreck, and one is nineteenth-century. Otherwise they have no date to date them.

Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (0193 9060). Wed 2.30pm.

BARNACLED: On June 16, 1904, the 22-year-old James Joyce and a Galway chamber maid, Nora Barnacle, took a walk by the sea at

Ringsend, near Dublin. The event was later immortalized as Bloomsday in Joyce's novel *Ulysses*. For an eightieth anniversary programme, the Irish dramatist Eric Ewans has reconstructed this and other meetings between Joyce and Nora which led to their falling in love and starting to make their lives together; they are played by Sean Barrett and Margaret Strelitz.

Radio 3, today, 7.30-8pm.

THE MANCHESTER ENTHUSIAST: The first of a two-part play by John Arden and his wife, Margaret D'Arby, which

examined the true story of the Raleigh Co-operative, the first Irish agricultural commune founded in 1851 by an Anglo-Irish landowner, John Scott Vandeleur, in an attempt to quell a state of rebellion among the peasantry of County Clare.

Radio 4, Mon, 8.15-9.45pm; part two is at the same time on June 25.

FILM STAR: Launching a new series of profiles of screen idols, Alexander Walker, film critic of the *London Standard*, looks at the career of the outrageous Mae West and recalls a meeting with her at her Hollywood home.

Radio 4, Thurs, 8.45-9.30pm.

PRIDE OF PLACE: The second of the programmes on people and places, playwright and school teacher Robin Gildinham offers a personal view of Belfast, trying to catch the shifting mood of a city which is often seen from the outside as a perpetual battle zone but where life, despite everything, tries to go on as normal.

Radio 4, Thurs, 8.45-9.30pm.

LE SILVER BELL: A life of Sidney Bechet, the great soprano saxophonist and clarinettist who was the first jazz musician of eminence to be taken up by cultivated Europeans, particularly in France where he later made his home.

Radio 3, Fri 7.30pm.

DOUBLE BOOKING: Two important book fairs are being held in Bath on Fri and Sat, representing the largest ever gathering of antiquarian book dealers outside London.

The Antiquarian Booksellers' Association (South West branch) have their event at Beaufort Hotel, Fri 2.30-8pm and Sat 10am-5pm;

the Provincial Booksellers' Fair Association fair is at the Assembly Rooms, Fri noon-8pm, Sat 10am-5pm.

Films

Freelance at work in a quirky world

"By the way", says the narrator, "did you know there are even on the *Île de France*?" After watching *Sans Soleil*, Chris Marker's extraordinary new film, we know this and a whole lot more: we know about Japanese cat temples, Icelandic earthquakes, Tokyo department-store gimmicks, and women's faces in forgotten corners of Africa.

Images, anecdotes, philosophical muggles, personal illusions and bizarre jokes tumble from the screen; they supposedly emanate from a fictional freelance cameraman, sending a cinematic letter about his travels to an unidentified woman. The actual cameraman responsible is the Hungarian emigre Sándor Kraszna, and the voice reading his letters belongs to the actress Alexandra Stewart; but everything we see and hear is filtered through Marker's quirky, generous, fascinated mind.

Marker is French; he was born Christian François Bousc-Villemin. He fought with the Resistance, wrote poetry, and travelled widely; he first came to prominence in the late 1950s and early 1960s with highly personal documentaries (*Letter from Siberia*, *Cuba Si!*) and a stunning science-fiction short (*Le Jete*) composed

entirely of still photographs. Yet he has never achieved wide international fame.

After the political ferment of 1968, Marker's distance from conventional world cinema increased; he buried himself inside the collective *SLOWN*, an acronym for *Société de Lancement des Oeuvres Nouvelles*, whose films, though challenging, only reached highly specialized audiences.

New Marker has re-emerged, with a beguiling, witty kaleidoscope shown at festivals in Berlin, Locarno, Toronto and London. The British Film Institute gave *Sans Soleil* their annual award for the most original and imaginative film introduced to audiences at the National Film Theatre; it is only appropriate, therefore, that the film should tour the Institute's regional theatres throughout the summer. One only hopes the title is not prophetic.

Geoff Brown

Sans Soleil (no certificate) opens in London on June 22 at the ICA Cinema, The Mall, SW1 (01 593 2647). The regional tour includes Bristol (at the Watershed, from July 2), Edinburgh (Filmhouse, from July 4), Nottingham (New Cinema, from July 25), Birmingham (Triangle, from Aug 3) and Cambridge (Arts Cinema, from Aug 20).

Openings

CHICHESTER: Festival Theatre, (0243 761312). *Forty Years On* by Alan Bennett, Today, Wed and Thurs at 7.30pm; matinée Thurs at 2.30pm, in repertory.

Paul Eddington, Annette Crosbie, Doris Hare and 20 Sussex schoolboys in the first major revival of a well-remembered comedy from the late 1960s. Directed by Patrick Garland.

On/Off by Georges and Ira Gershwin, directed by P. G. Wodehouse.

Todays at 2.30pm; Mon, Tues, Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory.

Jane Carr, Michael Sherry, Geoffrey Hutchings, Josephine Blake, Myra Sands, Jeremy Hawk in a 1926 musical adapted by Tony Gels and Ned Sherrin. Ian Judge directs a play of a rich brother and sister who use the family yacht for run-rum.

DORKING: Peacock Lanes Open Air Theatre, Great Bookham, Surrey (0372 57222). *Measure for Measure*. Opened Wed at 7.45pm, then Thurs and Fri at 7.45pm, June 23 at 3pm and 7.45pm. Opening production of the National Trust's charming garden theatre's thirty-third season, which extends only until July 8. Eile Green directs.

FARNHAM: Redgrave Theatre, Farnham (0222 715301). *Blood Brothers* by Miller. Directed by William Davies. Until June 23, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinées Wed and Sat at 2.30pm.

Chris Barrie directs the first touring production of a play which won several awards in the West End in 1983. Rebecca Stark, Peter Capaldi and Mark McGann as a mother and her twin sons, one of whom is given in infancy to her rich, childless employer.

NEWBURY: Watermill (0635 46044). *Wood* by Peter Weir. Until July 7, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinées Wed at 3pm; Sat at 4pm.

World premiere run for a play about a bishop's intervention in a dramatic dispute which arises over the reading of wedding banns.

LEEDS: The Grand (0532 458351). *Blood Brothers* by Miller. Directed by William Davies. Until June 23, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinées Wed and Sat at 2.30pm.

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World premiere run for a play about a woman who wins the Nobel Prize for Literature, and how it affects her relationships and life.

STRATFORD: Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0734 559223). *The Merchant of Venice*. Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory.

Antony Sher in the title role, with Patricia Routledge, Brian Blessed, Christopher Ravenscroft, in a new production directed by Bill Alexander.

THE OTHER PLACE (0789 556223). *Convoy* by Louis Page. Today, Mon, Tues, Thurs at 7.30pm; press night Tues at 7pm. In repertory.

Antony Sher in the title role, with Patricia Routledge, Brian Blessed, Christopher Ravenscroft, in a new production directed by Bill Alexander.

THE RETURN OF MARTIN GUERRE (15). A sixteenth-century French farmer returns to his village, only to find his identity questioned. Daniel Vigner's recreation of a famous historical incident won three French Academy awards.

From Fri at the Curzon (499 5737/8).

THE OSTERMAN WEEKEND (18). Sam Peckinpah's first film since *Convoy* in 1978: rip-roaring nonsense from Robert Ludlum's popular novel about CIA surveillance of a TV journalist's weekend party.

From Fri at the Leicester Square Theatre (030 6222).

Selected

MAN OF FLOWERS (18)

Screen on the Hill (035 3365)

Unique, affecting, beautiful film

from Dutch-born director Paul Cox, now resident in Australia. Norman

Kaye stars as the middle-aged

recluse he has become.

Odette is conveyed with clarity, calm, exquisite

photography, and a central

melancholic elegance of Proust's

bohemian Jew.

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes are often made and it is advisable to check using the telephone numbers given.

Sport and radio: Peter

Waymark, Auctions:

Geraldine Norman, Theatre:

Anthony Masters and Irving

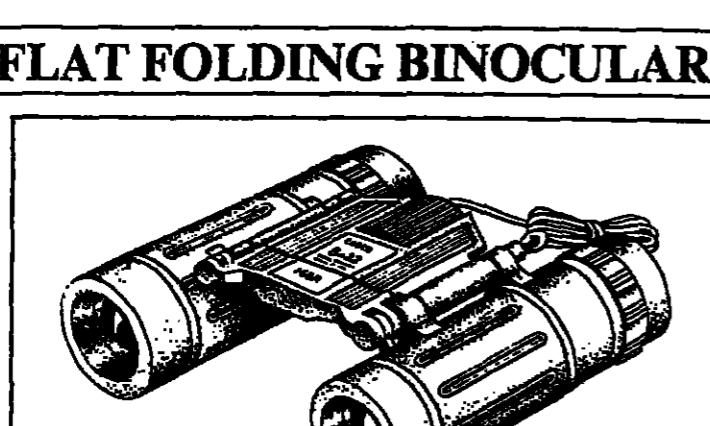
Wardle; Films: Geoff Brown;

Dance: John Percival

IN BRIEF

FLAT FOLDING BINOCULARS

FLAT FOLDING BINOCULARS



Binoculars are the ideal accompaniment to holidays, country walks, sporting events, bird-watching, etc. The bulk and weight of traditional instruments, however, can restrict their usefulness, becoming awkward to manipulate and heavy to hold.

These remarkable flat-folding binoculars are made in Japan for Tasco, a US company selected by NASA for the Apollo/Soyuz link-up. They are lightweight and compact enough to carry in a jacket pocket, handbag or on a belt, measuring just 3½in long, 1½in deep, 4½in wide and a mere 2½in wide when folded down. Though small in size, they are most impressive in performance, precision engineered for 8x22 magnification. The entire optical system is fully coated, with the added advantage of ultra violet coating. Available in two finishes – conventional black non-corrosive alloy (weighing 8oz) or dark green rubber-coated (weighing 10oz) for extra knock resistance and easier handling when wet, they are supplied complete with wrist strap and pouch.

These high-quality binoculars are at an optimum price and should give many years of service and enjoyment.

PRICES: Rubber-coated – £79.95 per pair. Black finish – £69.95 per pair.

All orders are usually despatched within 7 days of receipt of order – whilst stocks last – please allow up to 14-21 days for delivery from receipt of order. The price includes VAT and postage.

This order can only be despatched to addresses in the UK.

Money is refundable on all goods without question.

THE TIMES

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KENT DA5 1BL

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth FleetMessy tug of war over
Lloyds & Scottish

The Lloyds & Scottish fracas between Lloyds Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland group seems destined to remain a messy tale of protective banking folk to the end.

Yesterday was effectively the deadline imposed by Mr Norman Tebbit for a decision on whether he should refer the increase in Lloyds' stake in Royal from 16 to 21 per cent last December to a long, expensive and wholly pointless investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The threat of this, and Mr Tebbit's commendable desire to avoid a waste of public money on matters of principle of no practical interest, has produced a letter from Mr Brian Pitman of Lloyds agreeing to dispose of the extra shares within a "reasonable period" disclosed to the Bank of England and the Office of Fair Trading, but not to its or Royal's shareholders. So the investigation is off.

The reason for this backtracking by Lloyds is that it is near to an agreement with Royal to buy out its stake in the jointly owned finance house Lloyds & Scottish. The December purchase was designed to put pressure on Royal to reach an agreement after protracted talks that had started with wide differences over price. Even now, the two sides are not able to announce a final agreement.

Even if they managed it in days, there will be a further delay to allow a tax-saving scheme of arrangement through the courts soon to go on their summer recess. There are also a few outside L&S shareholders to be thought of.

Yet this Marmaduke Gingerbits style of haggle-of-war over Lloyds & Scottish - indeed the whole shareholding relationship between the two clearing bank groups - has long been turned into an irrelevance by events.

Until Standard Chartered and the Hongkong Bank made their abortive bids for Royal, both Royal and Lloyds seemed content to keep equal stakes in the finance house with a substantial public shareholding. Sensing a threat, Lloyds moved in the bid confusion to strengthen its position to a majority holding by buying all the publicly held L&S shares in the market.

When the bids were ruled out of court by the famous Scottish ring fence decision by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, Lloyds decided to make the best of it and increase its stake in the lucrative, tax-favoured leasing business by buying out its partner.

The protracted talks, notable for an unbridgeable difference in the two sides' valuations of L&S, and which led to the bullying move by Lloyds last December, were rendered as nought by Mr Nigel Lawson. He removed the tax advantages of leasing in the Budget and made the whole row an historical irrelevance. This, rather than negotiating skill, has finally brought the two sides closer together.

The logic of Lloyds remaining 16.4 per cent stake in Royal over which it has made neither decisions or undertakings, remains equally obscure.

It was first the inheritance of a larger stake in one of the banks which merged to form the Royal Bank Group. In the days of bank mergers, it became a strategic stake (like Barclays' holding in Bank of Scotland), to give Lloyds first whack in any Royal takeover. When Lloyds eventually made its move, it was blackballed by Lord Richardson at the Bank of England who fixed Royal up with Standard Chartered instead. Royal's continued independence is due to the Monopolies Commission rather than its own management or Lloyds' stake.

Thereafter, Lloyds might have hoped to swap its stake for Royal's William & Glyn's branches in England. But this was stymied by the internal merger of Royal's constituent banks. What use is this non-consolidated stake now? It is to be hoped that the Commission decision will stand. Certainly, inhabitants of Manchester and Liverpool, who saw their local banks

gobbled up, will think the Scots lucky to have their own.

It has taken Lloyds and Citibank years of square dancing to sort out their strategically pointless interests in Grindlays, now to join the ANZ Banking group. Does Lloyds have so little use for the money that it can afford to maintain its tangle with Royal so long?

European Ferries
sails into storm

This weekend could be critical in the life of European Ferries, and the strange saga of its shareholders' perks. Shareholders, it will be recalled, are being asked to approve a scheme of arrangement which would turn the perk shares into preference shares, leaving cross-Channel trippers still qualifying for their discount, but minus votes. Full voting rights would reside in the equity, which presumably is of more interest to the institutions.

Votes on the scheme should arrive by next Friday. But the small shareholder normally makes his corporate decisions in the garden over the weekend.

At play now must be the corporate identity of the entire group. Since the proposed scheme of arrangement was announced, small shareholders' passions have predictably been whipped up via the European Ferries Shareholders' Action Group, which is plainly voting a decisive no to the plan.

Without daring to presume on the trend among the proxies landing on S. G. Warburg's doormat, it seems reasonable to assume that activists currently outweigh the less committed shareholders, some of whom presumably are even now on the high seas between Dover and Calais.

The merchant bank remains tight-lipped about how voting is going but reiterated earlier comments that a vote against the scheme of arrangement must ultimately be a vote against the concession itself. The logic behind this analysis looks sound. European Ferries is a large company with an annual turnover of about £350m, running a tough cross-Channel ferry service. It has admitted that a hitherto attractive shareholders' perk is now too expensive to service.

Should the scheme not go through next Friday, the group must react - if only to avoid looking vulnerable to competitors.

Cuts in the peak sailings concession? A rise in the number of shares qualifying for the concession? A drop in the discount? The group, presumably, would be ready to countenance almost any remedial action in order to restore corporate confidence. Shareholders have been known to win the battle but lose the war before now.

The enterprising
choice for Walker

Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, and his advisers will be doing their last-minute thinking this weekend about the flotation of Enterprise Oil. The issue is scheduled to be launched on Tuesday, and it will take something big, nasty and unforeseen for it to be delayed. The chief surprise will be if Mr Walker opts for the politically risky course of a fixed price offer rather than a tender.

It is long odds that a tender will be chosen; despite the market's dislike of the method, it still continues to be highly regarded in Whitehall.

After Enterprise management's barnstorming tour round the City's lunch tables, the company has not lacked exposure, so the prospectus is unlikely to contain much in the way of surprises.

Kleinwort Benson and the Department of Energy will be looking for the tender to get them something upwards of £425m. The chief interest lies in how far the good impression the Enterprise team have made in most parts of the City will allow the company to shade its yield below 5 per cent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

£6.2m offer by Grovebell

By Our City Staff

Grovebell Group, a garage and investment company, yesterday launched a £6.2m takeover bid for Marshall's Universal, a vehicle distribution group twice its size.

Mr Vasant Advani, Grovebell chairman, said: "Parts of their business will fit with ours and we can make better use of some of their assets which are undervalued."

Grovebell is offering 11 of its

own shares for every three Marshall shares. Taking Grovebell at 14½ p, yesterday, the share offer values Marshall shares at 51.3p.

Stratham Duff Stoop, acting for Grovebell if offering to buy Marshall shares for 42p cash for a limited period. Stratham is also stockbrokers to Esso (Commodities), which owns 18 per cent of Marshall's Universal.

Decision nears on \$300m loan for Argentina

US plays down debt deadline

From Bailey Morris, Washington

American officials yesterday attempted to play down the importance of a key deadline which would qualify Argentina for a \$300m (£217m) government loan to resolve its most pressing debt repayment problems.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the American central bank, and Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, said it would not be significant if the American government chose to extend for a third time yesterday's deadline.

"We have got until midnight to decide," Mr Regan said yesterday. Even if the extension were denied, he said, the

Treasury could reactivate the offer later.

Treasury sources said that it had been decided not to extend the loan deadline unless Argentina changed its hardline negotiating position with the International Monetary Fund on a new economic austerity programme.

Other Administration officials said yesterday that a decision on the extension would send an important signal to debtor nations and commercial banks.

"We have got until midnight to decide," Mr Regan said yesterday. Even if the extension were denied, he said, the

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

23

Jessel agrees to improved bid from Mercantile House

By William Kay, City Editor

Mercantile House, the financial group, has been forced into the rare step of increasing the terms of a previously agreed bid to save its strategic takeover of the discount house Jessel, Toynbee and Gillett. *The Times* disclosed yesterday that the deal was being renegotiated in the wake of the recent fall in the Mercantile House share price.

The new offer is three Mercantile shares, plus £1.50 cash for every 10 Jessel shares. As an alternative, Jessel shareholders can opt to exchange up to half their holdings for Mercantile floating rate loan notes 1989, at the rate of 110p of notes for every Jessel share.

The main additional element is the £1.50 cash which will cost Mercantile between £1.5m and £3m, depending on how many Jessel shares are exchanged for the loan notes. They have been upgraded, in that Mercantile

has promised to seek a listing for them on the stock market. Originally they were to stay unlisted, making them harder to sell.

The consent of the Takeover Panel has been required to extend the closing date for the loan note alternative, along with the share exchange offer, from June 18 to July 2. In the light of the changes, any Jessel investor who has already accepted the first bid can now change his or her mind about the mixture of shares and loan notes.

Mr Michael Toynbee, chairman, said yesterday: "The board of Jessel, Toynbee and Gillett are unanimous in recommending the revised offer from Mercantile House. I have personally been in favour of the deal from the beginning and am particularly looking forward to work-

ing with Mr John Barkshire, the chairman of Mercantile House.

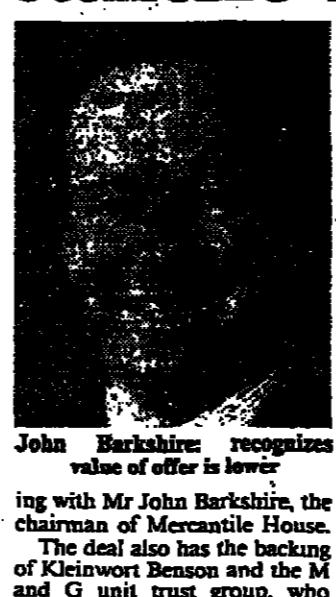
The shakeout in the stock market is to blame for the higher offer. When the deal was announced on May 14, Mercantile shares were 388p. Last night they were 262p, up 10p on relief that it was still going through.

Mr Barkshire explained: "Mercantile recognizes that the value of the all-share offer for Jessel on the basis of the current market price of Mercantile House shares is significantly lower now than when terms were agreed."

The terms of the recommended offer for Jessel's preference shares are unchanged at 80p cash, but have been extended to the new deadline of July 2.

By the close of business on Thursday, acceptances had been received for 6.76 per cent of Jessel ordinary shares, and 30.8 per cent of the preference.

The new share exchange values each Jessel share at 93p, compared with the original level of 110p, so it is a compromise.



John Barkshire: recognizes value of offer is lower

BAe shares jump 12p

The shares of British Aerospace, which is now the centre of intense bid speculation, continued to climb yesterday as the rest of the stock market fell.

They rose by a further 19p at their best, before easing, to close 12p up on the day, at 389p. Dealers reported heavy one-way trade in the stock with good quality buying.

Some expect a full takeover bid from GEC at 410p to arrive in the next fortnight. British Aerospace shares have been up to 401p and were 380p on the day. Thorn-EMI announced it was interested in making a bid.

However, these talks were broken off three days ago, clearing the way for a full bid from GEC.

Lord Weinstein, GEC's chief, has been under pressure for some time to spend the group's £1.5 billion "cash mountain".

Stock market report, page 24

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1040.1 down 3.7

FT Index: 815.8 down 0.4

FT Gilts: 78.92 up 0.09

FT All Share: 127.710

Daxstream US Leaders Index: 102.78 down 0.53

New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1096.39 down 1.22

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 1057.05 down 91.08

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 932.37 down 20.78

Amsterdam: 168.4 down 1.9

Sydney: ASX Index 553.0 down 8.3

Paris: CAC 160.0 down 2.5

Zurich: SKA General 295.50 down 1.10

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling: 79.70 down 80pts

Index 79.5 unchanged

DM 3.7775 up 0.0075

FrF 11.60 up 0.0075

Yen 320.75 down 0.25

Dollar: 1.31.7 up 0.6

DM 2.7400 up 0.0205

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling: \$1.3790

Dollar DM 2.7420

ECU £0.591981

SDR £0.752522

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:

Bank base rates 9.9%

Finance houses base rate 9%

Discount market loans week fixed 8%

3 month interbank 9.9% - 9.1%

Euro-currency rates:

3 month dollar 11.1% - 11.3%

3 month DM 5.4% - 5.7%

3 month Fr 13.4% - 12.1%

US rates:

Bank prime rate 12.50

Fed funds 11%

Treasury long bond 100.4% - 100.7%

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period May 2 to June 5, 1984 inclusive: 9.516 per cent

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):

gold \$368.50-369.50 (257.25-257.75)

Kruegerrand (per ounce):

\$361.381.50 (275.75-276.75)

Sovereigns (new):

\$86.50-87.50 (62.75-63.50)

*Excludes VAT

Rush for Etam shares

By Jeremy Warner

Stock market investors have put up more than £25m in the hope of acquiring shares in Etam, the women's wear retailer being floated by County Bank and Simon & Coates, the stockbroker.

More than 51.8 million applications were received for a total of 2 million shares guaranteeing the flotation of a healthy premium when dealings begin next Thursday. The offer for

"BRITAIN IN THE 21st CENTURY"**MAJOR SEMINARS**

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60 DAY ACCOUNT **BONUS SHARE**
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You can choose to receive a fixed level of income or, alternatively, a percentage of the value of your investment e.g. 5%, 10%, ... or more - payable monthly or half yearly.

As well as an income free from income tax, you have excellent prospects of capital growth. Your money will be invested in the fund which has grown by a remarkable 100% over the last seven years - outperforming every other unit trust (Money Management, April 1984).

Although past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future, and unit values can go down as well as up, £10,000 invested in June 1976 increased to £112,681 (including reinvested income) by April 1984.

To take full advantage of this exceptional opportunity, complete and return the coupon without obligation right away.

Assuming your Capital Gains Tax allowance of £5,600 is not exceeded.

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I may consider an investment of £_____ Tax Rate _____

London Dealers in Securities

Starting
1st dollar
1st year
D.M.
French Franc
Swiss Franc

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Conditions are perfect for Electrical Wind to breeze in

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

electrical Wind (nap), a late withdrawal from the Derby, can dictate that decision by running the Daniel Prenn Royal Shire Stakes at York today. For the fourteenth consecutive year, the entire programme has been sponsored in order to raise money for cancer and other charities.

The conditions of today's race, Electrical Wind, who won both his races this year, and yesterday, George Johnson, our Newmarket correspondent, also spoke well in chance having watched him at Kempton Park a fortnight ago.

Willie Carson, who has the mount of Musical Box, should also win the Duchess of Kent Stakes on Loftus, who shaped so nicely in the race won by Old Bailey at Kempton Park a fortnight ago. Old Bailey is deemed good enough to go to Royal Ascot next week.

Richard Quinn is another jockey with doubly good prospects of getting among the prize money at York today, on Musical Box and Feels (4.0). Both are trained by Paul Cole, whose stable has been in such fine form this season.

Maizzi, who is my choice to win the William Hill Trophy, has run well at York this season, too, even though he was beaten over a distance that proved just too far. Reverting to sprinting in his next race at Chepstow, Maizzi went under by only a neck to Jack Tar, whom he will be meeting on more favourable terms now.

That form is good, because earlier in the season, Jack Tar beat Suss Steel at Newmarket and Suss Steel won the Allington Stakes at Sandown yesterday.

It will be surprising to those saw Electrical Wind win his race at Doncaster, if At Ease' By Birdie on 'Get The Edge' can give him 4lb. So am Noble, who shaped so usefully in the race won by subsequent Derby third, My Flutter, at Newbury, will be regarded as the triple danger.

It matters how Russian gets on, his connections a formidable partnership of Jack, Staute and Walter Burn should not leave the empty-handed because who a full sister to the Guineas runner-up, Our Salka, is expected to win Vernon's Fillies Stakes as is reverting to racing over after blutely failing to further in classic trials at

Newmarket and Lingfield Park.

Prince Crow, another fancied runner from the stable, is expected to give his backers a good run in the Basil Samuel Handicap now that the ground is much faster than it was a Sandown Park, where he was a Sandown favourite last time out.

However, I prefer Musical Box, who gave backers of Prime Asset such a fight at Newmarket a fortnight ago.

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Royal Ascot next week.

Richard Quinn is another

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prospects of getting among

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on Musical Box and Feels (4.0).

Both are trained by Paul Cole,

whose stable has been in such

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Maizzi, who is my choice to

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has run well at York this

season, too, even though he was

beaten over a distance that

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to sprinting in his next race at

Chepstow, Maizzi went under

by only a neck to Jack Tar, whom

he will be meeting on more

favourable terms now.

That form is good, because

earlier in the season, Jack Tar

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and Suss Steel won the Allington

Stakes at Sandown yesterday.

It will be surprising to those

saw Electrical Wind win his

race at Doncaster, if At Ease' By Birdie on 'Get The Edge' can

give him 4lb. So am Noble, who shaped so

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Saturday

BBC 1

6.20 Open University. Until 8.25.
6.40 The Saturday Picture Show. Cartoons, videos and serials plus coverage of the start of Nick Sander's attempt to become the fastest man to cycle round the coast of Britain. The special guest is Tom O'Connor and a song is sung by Tracey.
6.40 Trooping the Colour. Live coverage of the parade to mark the occasion of Her Majesty the Queen's official birthday. The Queen is accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh as Colonel, Grenadier Guards; The Prince of Wales, Colonel, Welsh Guards; and The Duke of Kent, Colonels, Scots Guards. The Queen's Colour of the 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards is being trooped and the parade, by tradition, falls into five sections: The Inspection of the Line; The Troop; Trooping the Colour; The March Past; and the Rank Parade. The music is played by the Massed Bands of the Household Cavalry and the Massed Bands of the Guards Division. 12.12 Weather.
12.15 Sandman. Introduced by Desirée and Lynn. The line-up is 12.15, 1.45, 2.15, 3.20, 3.20 and 4.10. Cricket: Live coverage of the third day's play in the First Test Match between England and the West Indies at Edgbaston.
1.00 News summary: 1.05 and 3.40 Motor Racing from Silverstone and an interview with Derek Bell; 1.40, 2.10, 2.50, 3.20 and 4.10. Tennis: The Stella Artois Championships at London's Queen's Club; 2.05, 2.40, 3.05 and 4.05. Football: 1.40, 2.15, 2.50 and 4.10. Athletics: The WSS Women's AAA from Crystal Palace; 4.30 Show Jumping: The Royal International Horse Show from the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. 5.00 Final Scores.
5.05 Automan. Another adventure for the Los Angeles lawman who began his career in a video game. (Ceefax titles page 170.)
5.15 News with Moira Stuart. 6.05 Sport and regional news.
6.10 Pop Quiz presented by Mike Read. The panelists are Paul Young, Toyah, Drummie Zab, Gary Gillett, Annabel Lamb and Green.
6.40 Film: Flood (1976) starring Robert Culp, Carol Lynley and Richard Basehart. Disaster movie about a weakening dam that is threatening a small town whose inhabitants seem unconcerned about the impending torrent. Directed by Earl Bellamy.
6.45 The Val Doonican Show with guests, fellow singers, Charlie Pride and Dana and jazz trio, Cel.
8.00 News and Sport. With Moira Stuart.
9.15 The Royal International Horse Show introduced from the National Exhibition Centre by David Vine. Coverage of the Radio Rentals Pulse. The commentators are Raymond Brooks-Ward and Stephen Hadley.
9.30 Film: Holliters (1977) starring James Coburn, Louis Nettleton and Slim Pickens. Drama about an ageing rodeo rider who returns to his home town in New Mexico to find his deserted wife demanding a divorce and his teenage son resentful of his father's neglect. Directed by Steve Innes.
9.45 Weather.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain. Presented by Henry Kelly and Toni Arthur. Bob Wright with a feature on the buying and maintaining cars; news at 7.00 and 8.40; George Best at 7.15; the Greene's dream home at 7.45; cooking with Ruthie Lee at 8.15. The special guests include Jill Cooper and Jill Tweedie.
8.40 SPLAT with Adam Wide. Includes Crack-It; James Baker's search for the junior mastermind; and the soap opera, No Adults Allowed.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 LWT Information. 9.30 Games Street. 10.30 No 73. A pot-pourri of fun and games and pop music.
12.00 World of Sport introduced by Eddie Davies. The line-up is: 12.05 International Football. Highlights of the first week's matches. 12.45 News followed by the Australian pools news; 12.50 Relying: the Lloyds Bowmakers RSA Scottish Rally; 1.00 Olympics '84: The US Athletics Championships from the Olympic Coliseum, Los Angeles; 1.15 Basketball: The NBA finals between Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers; 1.30 TV's TV's the 1.45, 2.15, and 2.45 from Sandown and the 2.00, 2.30 and 3.00 races from York.
3.15 Boxing: The WBA Light Middleweight Championship bout between Thomas Hearns and Roberto Duran, from Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas; 3.30 News round-up; 4.00 Wrestling: two Heavy-Middleweight bouts from Walton-on-Thames; 4.40 Golf: Steve Rider reports on the first two rounds of the US Open at Winged Foot, New York; 4.50 Results.

5.05 Whiz Kids. The electronics prodigies solve another crime.

6.00 The Pyramid Game. Steve Jones presents this competition to test children's powers of description.

6.30 The Gumblesheds Radio Show. Music and comedy from five funny men.

7.00 The Comedians. Non-stop jokes from a succession of stand-up comedians.

7.30 Just Amazing. The last in the present series includes a fearsome stunt by American daredevil driver, Dar Robinson.

8.15 The Price is Right. The final programme in the guess-the-cost competition, presented by Leslie Crowther.

9.15 News.

9.30 Aspel and Company. This week's guests on the chat show are Bill Wyman, George Segal and Charlotte Rampling.

10.15 T. J. Hooker. William Shatner stars as the policeman in an episode entitled Death Strip.

11.15 Tales of the Unexpected: The Last of the Redridges. Companions occur in the life of Walter Oates when he offers a prize for the perfect murder plot.

11.45 London News Headlines followed by Thriller: Someone at the Top of the Stairs. Two girls wander into an old house.

12.25 An Evening with Sister Sledge. Highlights of a concert given by the American soul singers followed by Night Thoughts.



Maasai women taking part in a fertility ceremony in tonight's documentary *The Women's Olimai* (BBC2, 8.15pm).

BBC 2

6.25 Open University. Until 8.10.
8.10 Film: Tarzan and the Green Goddess* (1938) starring Bruce Bennett. Jungle yarn with Tarzan on the trail of a sacred idol and its secret code. He has to find the statue before it falls into the hands of an army general. Directed by Edward Keane.

9.10 The City at Night. Patrick Moore with Dr Paul Murdin at the observatory in La Palma that houses the Isaac Newton Telescope. From this new observatory it was possible to receive the first colour video picture of the Ring Nebula in Lyra – something that is far beyond the solar system (shown last Sunday).

9.45 Cricket: First Test. Live coverage of the third day's play in the First Test Match between England and the West Indies at Edgbaston, introduced by Peter West.

10.10 Cartoons Two. *Aucassion and Nicolette*, based on a 13th-century ballad and made by the National Film Board of Canada.

10.25 *Primal* Part two of the drama designed to help the English-speaking tourists in Germany.

11.40 Trooping the Colour.

Highlights from this morning's parade at which Her Majesty the Queen took the salute on the occasion of her official birthday. The commentator is Tom Fleming assisted by former Garrison Sgt-Maj Tom Taylor.

8.00 News and sport. With Moira Stuart.

8.15 The Women's Olimai. The first in a series of films about the Maasai tribes of East Africa.

Tonight's documentary – about the organization of a fertility ceremony – is seen through the eyes of four women of the tribe, two of which have 13 children between them, the other two being 10 and 11. The film was made by Melvyn Lowmyer-Davies who spent two years living with the Maasai.

8.45 Saturday Review. Comment and discussion on the latest news from the arts and the media, presented by Russell Davies and Minette Martin.

9.15 Tales of the Unexpected: The Last of the Redridges. Companions occur in the life of Walter Oates when he offers a prize for the perfect murder plot.

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CHANNEL 4

1.55 *Ark on the Move*. The second of Gerald Durrell's programmes about saving endangered species comes from Round Island, off Mauritius, the home of lizards and frogs, snakes. With subtitles (r).

2.25 *Film: Hall the Conqueror* (1944) starring Eddie Bracken, Elsa Lanchester and William Demarest. World War Two comedy about a United States marine who is invalided out of the service after a few weeks with hay fever. When he returns to his home town he is mistaken for a war hero. Directed by Preston Sturges.

4.15 *Film: Dutiful Boy* (1941) starring the Three Stooges as mischievous boys assigned to take pictures in Outer Vulgaria, a place from which no photographer has ever returned. Directed by Del West.

4.35 *Buffalo Bill*. The obnoxious chat-show host, Bill Bittner, abuses his stage manager so much that the poor man resigns. Bill promotes his make-up man into the vacant position but chaos reigns.

5.05 *Brookside*. A compilation of the week's two episodes.

6.00 *Eye Say*. News, interviews, five music and records, presented by Nicky Horns. The guests include Alf, Special AKA and Del Schneider.

7.00 News summary followed by 7 Days with Professor the Rev Harry Chedwick talking to Michael Charlton about the state of doctrine in the Church of England; Francis Pym discussing the Royal Government's internal Provisions Bill; and Professor Andre McClean on the issues raised by drug experiments on living people.

7.30 *Union World*. Bob Greaves reports on how the unions have helped turn the Highlands and Islands Division of British Airways from a loss-maker into a solvent section of BA. Plus an interview with David Lee, one of the candidates for Len Murray's post.

8.00 *Cervantes*. The fifth episode in the dramatization of the life of the Spanish author of *Don Quixote* (subtitles).

9.00 *Callas*. The secret agent and his colleague, Cross, are on the trail of an assassin when Cross accidentally kills an innocent man.

10.00 *Who Dares, Wins* ... Topical, satirical comedy.

11.00 *US Open Golf*. Coverage of the third round of the tournament being played at the Winged Foot course on the outskirts of New York.

12.30 approximately Closedown.

BBC 1

8.20 Open University. Until 8.50.
9.00 *Flight*. For the very young (r). 1.15 *Sunday Weather*. The latest programmes of the service and Raymond Short looks back at some of the services and talks to three of the contributors.

10.00 *Asian Magazine* includes an interview with the Pakistani tennis player Lahore Mahmudra Rehman Jafrey, 10.30 *Tele-Montage*. Extracts from French speaking television networks (r). 10.55 *A vous le week*. The guest is John Wells.

11.20 *Technical Studies*: Engineering Design (r). 11.45 *Dr Smith's Cookery*. Fruits, cold puddings (r). 12.10 *Exploring Photography*. *Photograph the Final Part*. The Image (r). 12.35 *Mirror in the Classroom* (r). 1.00 *Farming*. 1.25 *Rockschool*. Advice for hopeful rock musicians (r).

1.50 *News Headlines*. 1.55 *Tom and Jerry Double Bill*.

2.10 *Film: Key Largo* (1948) starring Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall and Edward G. Robinson. In a remote hotel on a Florida island, a retired general and his son meet a notorious criminal Johnny Rocco. In the meantime a hurricane approaches. Directed by John Huston. 3.45 *Bonanza*. Hoss offers to look after visiting celebrity Lila Fairmont.

3.45 *Holiday Hall*. Highlights of the two-day extravaganza held at Milden Hall in Suffolk. Presented by David Icke and Fern Britton.

5.25 *Rock Gospel Show*, presented by Sheila Walsh. The guests for this last programme of the series include Cliff Richard and the London Community Gospel Choir.

5.50 *News with Jan Leeming*. 6.10 *Beast Geete*. Episode four of the eight-part dramatization of P. C. Wren's classic novel and John has reached Paris in his search for his brothers (r). (Ceefax titles page 170.)

6.40 *Praise Be*. Thor Hird with another selection of hymns requested by her Sons of Praise viewers (Ceefax titles page 170).

7.15 *Film: This Time Forever* (1980) starring Vincent Van Patten and Claire Bloom. Love story, set in Canada in 1967, about a student, expelled from university who has to decide whether to become a Vietnam draft dodger and stay with his girlfriend or to go and fight. Directed by Larry Kent. First showing on British television.

8.50 *News*. 9.00 *Eye Say*. News, interviews, five music and records, presented by Nicky Horns. The guests include Alf, Special AKA and Del Schneider.

9.30 *Sharing Time*. Time Trial, by Dr Webb. The seven story of the life of the author of *Sharing Time* and a share of a converted manor house and it is Open Day with the owners trying to lure customers into buying a week or two in the flats. Barry and Kelly are among those who appear interested but the real reason they are there is nothing to do with buying a flat. Starring Caroline Langrishe, Simon Chandler, Angela Douglas and Simon Williams (Ceefax titles page 170).

10.05 *News with Jan Leeming*.

11.15 *The Natural World* – *Beneath the Keel*. A film made by Jeff Goodman and Laurie Emberson in the sea off the Devon coast. Away from the sheltered coves they timed longer eels, dog fish, jewel anemones, lobsters and cuttlefish while in the quiet bays, baby fish, spider crabs and the nocturnal and rare Red Band fish can be seen.

But a lot of the coastal marine creatures are threatened with extinction by commercial fishing. Goodman and Emberson are active in encouraging sports fishermen to let their catches go live rather than kill them when they are brought on board. To this end they have designed a special stretcher net to facilitate the removal of the hook before the fish is returned to the sea.

9.05 *The King's Singers Madrigal Mystery Tour*. The last of the programmes tracing the history of the madrigal is introduced by Anthony Holt, one of the King's Singers two baritones, from Italy.

9.35 *European Election Results*. A New Night Special with John Tusa, Peter Snow, Professor Tony King and Sir Robin Day. The first declaration in the United Kingdom is due at approximately 9.45. The coverage ends at 1.35.

12.30 approximately Closedown.

TV-am

7.25 Good Morning Britain begins with a Thought for a Sunday 8.30 *Run-e-Dub-Tub*. Entertainment for early rising young children including stories and cartoons.

8.30 *Good Morning Britain*, presented by David Frost continues with news headlines from Jayne Irving and Jeni Barnett's *Pick of the Week*. The guest is John Wells.

10.00 *ITV/LONDON*

9.25 *LWT Information* 9.30 Me and My Mifflin. Fred Harris with the second of his series for home computer users. 10.00 *Morning Worships* from St Mary's College, Bairs, Aberdeen. 11.00 *Getting On*. A programme for the older viewer, presented by Tony Van den Berg. The programme includes a discussion between doctors, opticians, politicians and members of the public on the implications of the opticians monopoly. 11.30 *Star Fleet*. Episode 10 of the science fiction adventure (r).

12.00 *Technical Studies*: Engineering Design (r). 11.45 *Dr Smith's Cookery*. Capers, Fruits and cold puddings (r). 12.10 *Exploring Photography*. *Photograph the Final Part*. The Image (r). 12.35 *Mirror in the Classroom* (r). 1.00 *Farming*. 1.25 *Rockschool*. Advice for hopeful rock musicians (r).

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8.15 <i

Senior officer to hold police shooting inquiry

By Michael Horsnell and Philip Webster

Sir Kenneth Newman, the Secretary of the "usual ineffable complacency".

Mr Brittan told *The Times*: "I regard what Mr Brittan said as unsatisfactory. We have not been given the information to which we are entitled on whether the police rules have been observed. We need a public inquiry with a published report."

Detectors are waiting to question the two intruders, who are in hospital. One is in a serious condition, paralysed from the chest down at the spinal injuries unit of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in Stanmore, Middlesex. The other is in a stable condition at North Middlesex Hospital, London.

At the centre of his inquiries lies the question of whether the issue of the firearms and their subsequent use complied with new police regulations given by the Home Office last year after Mr Stephen Waldorf was mistaken for a wanted man and shot.

The officer, who has not been named, has been drawn from outside the Robbery Squad in which the two detectives serve, and he will report to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Members of the squad insist that they do not have another Waldorf case on their hands and that the detectives shouted a warning to the two intruders that they were armed during a violent struggle at the post office in Tottenham.

The shooting is said to have occurred after one of the intruders shouted to the other and reached into a holdall which police only afterwards discovered contained a gun.

He told *The Times*: "They should just be on the other end of a gun and they might change their mind."

Channel Islands asked to pay for defence

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government has requested the Channel Islands to contribute towards the cost of their defence and international representation.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, made the plea which he is powerless to enforce, in a letter to the governments of the islands, the States of Jersey and the States of Guernsey.

Home Office officials insisted yesterday that there was nothing sinister in the move, but it is clear that ministers believe the time has come for the islands to start paying their way for services which they have been getting free.

A famous victory for an amazed Alliance

By Robin Young



Fistful of banknotes: By-election victor Michael Hancock flourishes his team's winnings

(Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

Ban on commercial surrogate mothers to be recommended

Continued from page 1

by both doctors and scientists

who would have to be licensed, project.

The committee has approved the freezing of embryos, which is already taking place in Britain and overseas. Freezing can allow mothers to make several attempts to have a test-tube baby after only one operation to recover eggs, reducing the risks and probably increasing the chances of pregnancy.

No firm time limit has been laid down for how long embryos can be kept frozen, although the committee says that it should be long enough for well-spaced families. The parents of the frozen embryos would be consulted on whether it should be destroyed or used for research if spare embryos remain after they have successfully produced a child or children.

The main recommendations, however, hide deep and potentially explosive divisions within the committee.

The test-tube baby technique,

however, makes it possible for the baby to be created from the childless mother's egg and her husband's sperm. When handed over, it is genetically the offspring of the parents who will bring it up, not of the carrying mother, a position seen as ethically more acceptable than surrogate babies by artificial insemination.

Although that issue has been the most fraught within the committee, the most complex has come over the issue of embryo research.

While the committee is unanimous that, if it does take place, it should be controlled as outlined above, three of the 16 members will sign a minority report opposing research on human embryos in principle.

Nine of the 16 accept that research can be carried out on embryos, whether they are specially created for the purpose, or whether they are "spare" embryos.

Tories seek reasons for rout

Continued from page 1

Mr Rock was given no help by the Government's unconvincing admission that Portsmouth may well suffer being rate-capped.

The statistics (see table on this page) show that the Alliance effect was much as in the elections at Stafford and Surrey South last month, but more severe. As at Stafford, Labour, though panned in third place, increased by about four per cent its share of the votes – one small consolation.

But the Alliance share rose by 12.2 per cent (instead of 7.1 per cent) and the Conservatives dropped disastrously by about 12 per cent as candidate. It is very difficult for anyone to pretend to be an expert in a constituency's problem within three and a half weeks.

"Mr Rock then made several mistakes which he could not afford. For instance, on television he named a hospital

which was not in the constituency, and you cannot afford that sort of book at by-elections."

Labour slightly improved its share of the poll with local councillor, Mrs Sally Thomas, as candidate. Mr McGivans's verdict, however, was: "You cannot put up a CND supporter at a by-election in a naval city like Portsmouth and expect to do terribly well."

The Conservative, and his agent Mr David Smith, blames Thursday's low turnout for their surprise defeat. "Everybody gave the impression that we were strolling to victory," said Mr Rock, "though we did nothing to encourage that. We kept saying that there were no grounds for complacency."

"I thought the result would be close, but I expected to win until I heard how low the turnout had been. I knew that could cause problems," Mr Rock said he had expected Labour to come second.

Analysis of the turnout shows that the Conservatives' strongholds in St Jude's and St Thomas's wards polled particularly poorly – with 47 per cent and 49 per cent respectively.

Mr Hancock said his party's returns did make it credible that they could be third.

Even so, the poll shook confidence among SDP supporters. "We did begin to wonder whether we had got it all wrong," admitted the SDP national organizer, Mr Alec McGivans, who nevertheless had the confidence to place a £50 bet to net a total of £600 in winnings.

Mr McGivans said yesterday that he went into the count expecting a close result. "At our final press conference I had said we thought we should get 38 per cent of the vote. In fact, I had rounded up the figure from our canvas returns by half a point, because it was really 37.5 per cent. In the event, we got 37.4 per cent so we were pretty spot on."

A veteran of the Crosby and Hillhead by-election victories, Mr McGivans attributed Thursday's success partly to what he called "the Rock factor". "I think the Conservatives made a mistake in rushing the poll at short notice and bringing in an outsider as candidate. It is very difficult for anyone to pretend to be an expert in a constituency's problem within three and a half weeks."

All the evidence is that the decisive movement into their camp was undetected because it occurs in the last hours of the campaign.

Leading article, page 11

Mr Rock then made several mistakes which he could not afford. For instance, on television he named a hospital

PORSCHE SOUTH

	June	General	%	Change
C	34.3	11.3	-5.15	-15.7
SDP/All	37.6	25.4	+12.2	
Lab	28.5	22.6	+3.9	
Lib	0.5	0.6	-0.1	
Ecology	0.5	0.5	-0.1	
Vote Educate	0.1	0.1	-0.1	
Ind Lib	0.3	1.1	-0.8	
Spare the Earth	0.1	0.1	-0.1	
New National	0.1	0.1	-0.1	
Smith, P. R. (New Nat)	0.1	0.1	-0.1	
Majority	1,341			

	June	General	%	Change
C	54.5	67.3	-12.8	-17.7
Electoral	74,977	74,957	-20	-0.1
Total votes	40,983	50,198	-9,215	-18.3
General election, June 1983. Poll: 18.76%.				
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Thomas, Mrs S. T. (Lab) 11,324. Evans, G. D. (SDP/All) 12,702. (Lib) 1,722. (C) 2,752. (P. R. (New Nat) 1,238.				

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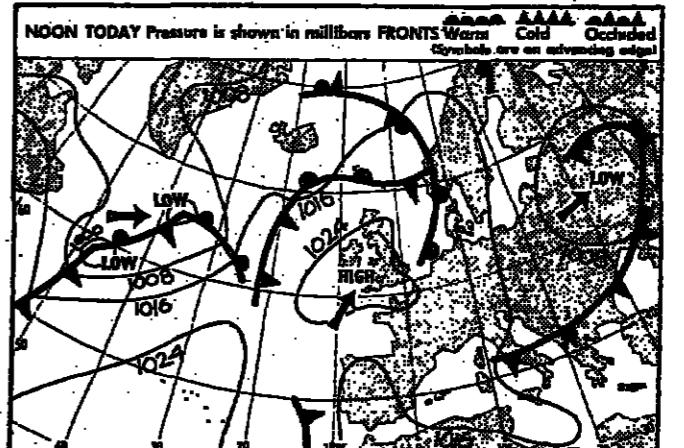
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High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.24	7.0	4.38	0.5
Aberdeen	3.60	4.0	4.18	0.5
Belfast	1.72	2.4	2.48	3.1
Cardiff	9.28	11.2	9.28	5.2
Doverport	0.28	0.4	0.5	0.1
Falmouth	1.24	1.6	1.62	0.4
Glasgow	3.25	4.2	4.13	4.9
Holyhead	1.27	1.7	1.77	1.1
Hull	0.27	0.5	0.52	0.1
Leeds	5.0	5.3	5.38	0.7
Liverpool	1.22	9.1	1.57	8.7
London	1.22	1.2	1.25	1.25
Margate	2.26	2.4	2.41	2.45
Millford Haven	0.52	0.6	0.11	0.5
Newport	0.21	0.2	0.2	0.41
Nottingham	0.21	0.2	0.2	0.45
Penzance	7.32	4.9	7.45	5.2
Plymouth	1.23	1.8	1.82	1.82
Portsmouth	0.21	0.2	0.2	0.2
Southampton	1.22	6.0	1.58	5.7
Southend	0.58	0.6	0.15	0.5
Tees	0.05	0.2	0.43	0.43
Weymouth	2.07	4.1	2.23	4.0

Tide measurement in metres. 1m=3.2808ft.

Tide measurement in metres. 1m=3.